

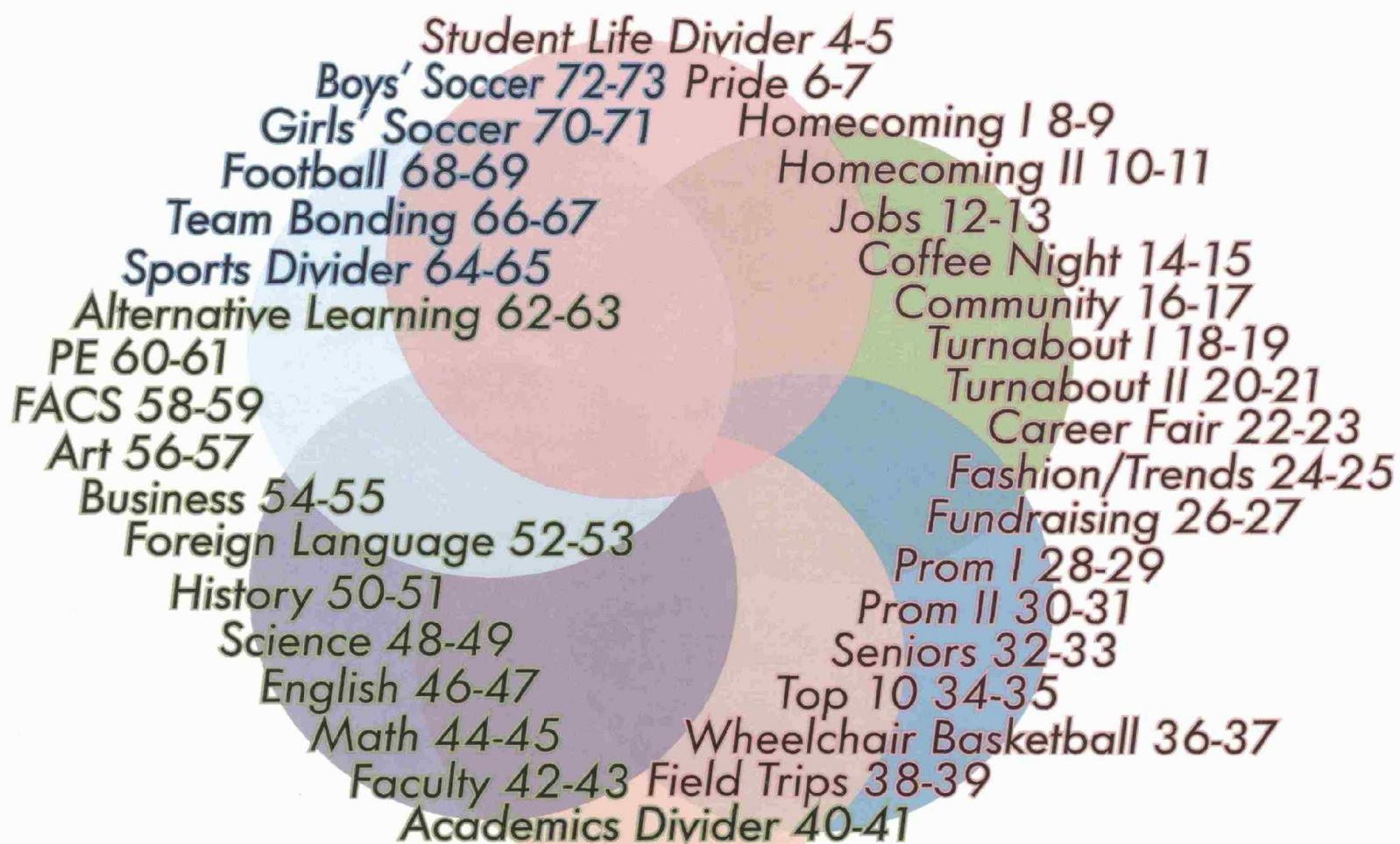
THE TIME

/ is

GRIFFITH HIGH SCHOOL

2017

***h*OURS**



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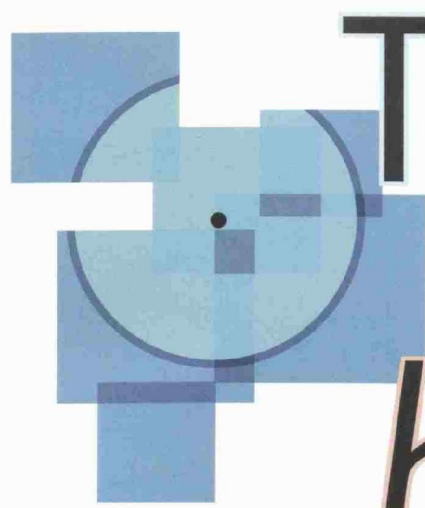
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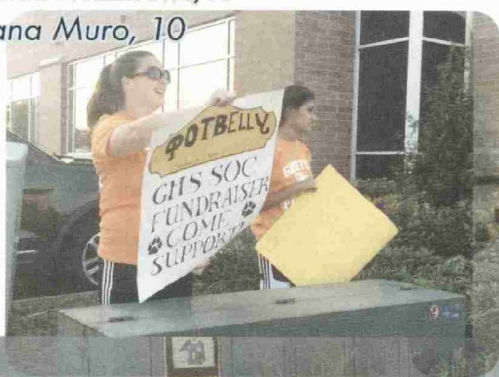
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THE TIME is hOURS

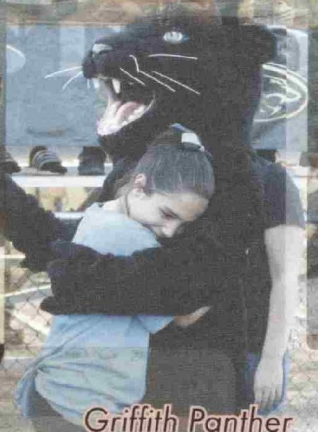
Veronica Matthews, 11
& Diana Muro, 10



Evan Queen, 12 &
Cameron Bobos, 11



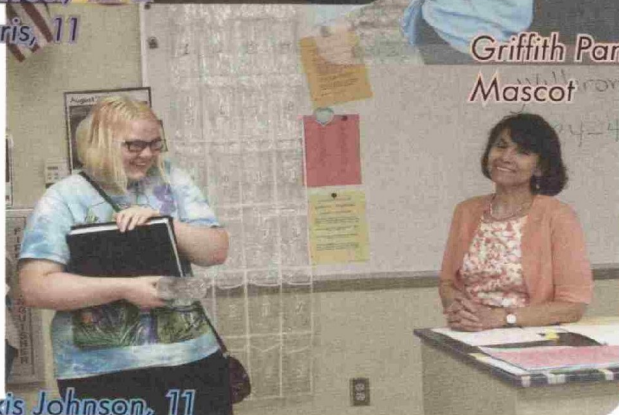
Ciara Villarruel, 12 &
Amari Harris, 11



Griffith Panther
Mascot



Holly Witvoet, 12



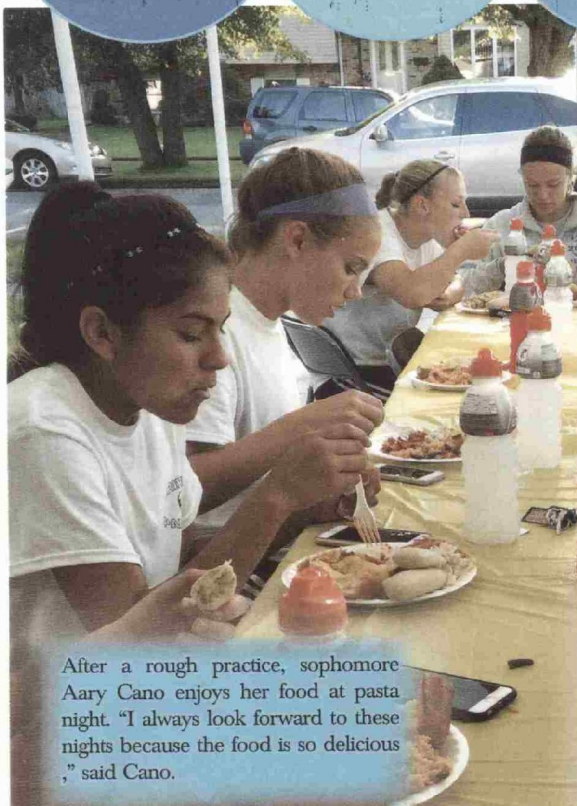
Alexis Johnson, 11

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CLOCKING IN

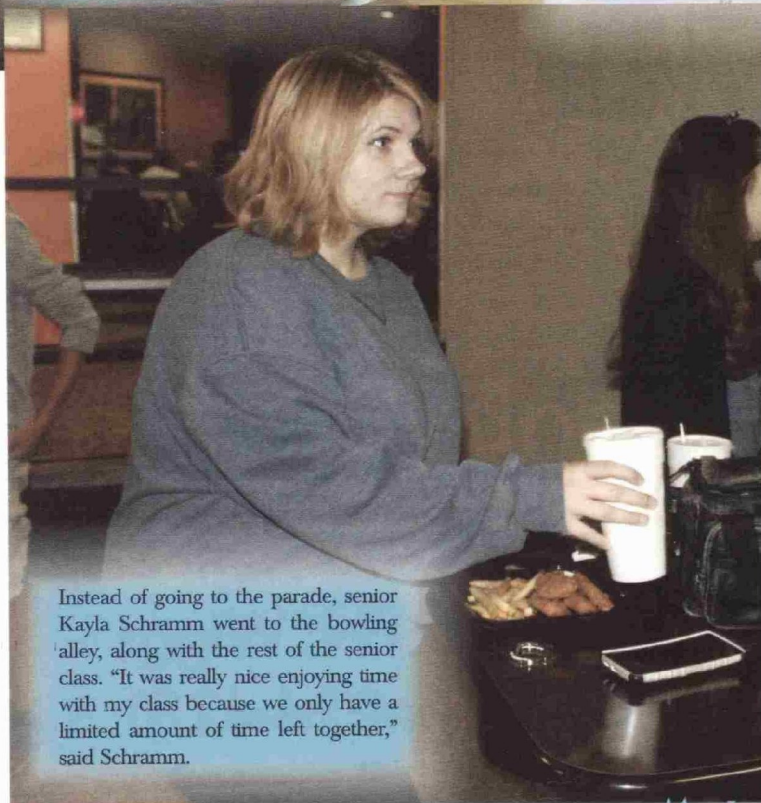
by: Rhiannon Banks



After a rough practice, sophomore Aary Cano enjoys her food at pasta night. "I always look forward to these nights because the food is so delicious," said Cano.



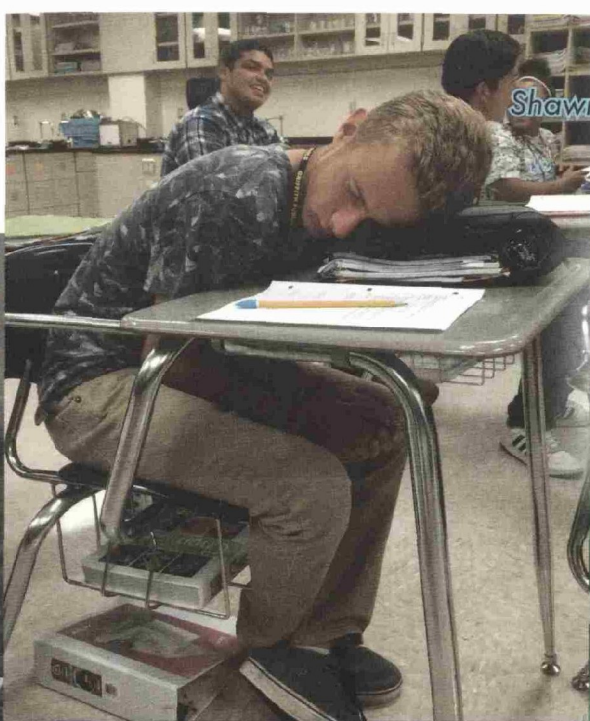
"Being able to listen to all of the talented acts was awesome," said senior Gabby Hamm. The two seniors, Hamm and Jennifer Chur, volunteered their time to work the vinyl CD booth at the annual coffee night.



Instead of going to the parade, senior Kayla Schramm went to the bowling alley, along with the rest of the senior class. "It was really nice enjoying time with my class because we only have a limited amount of time left together," said Schramm.

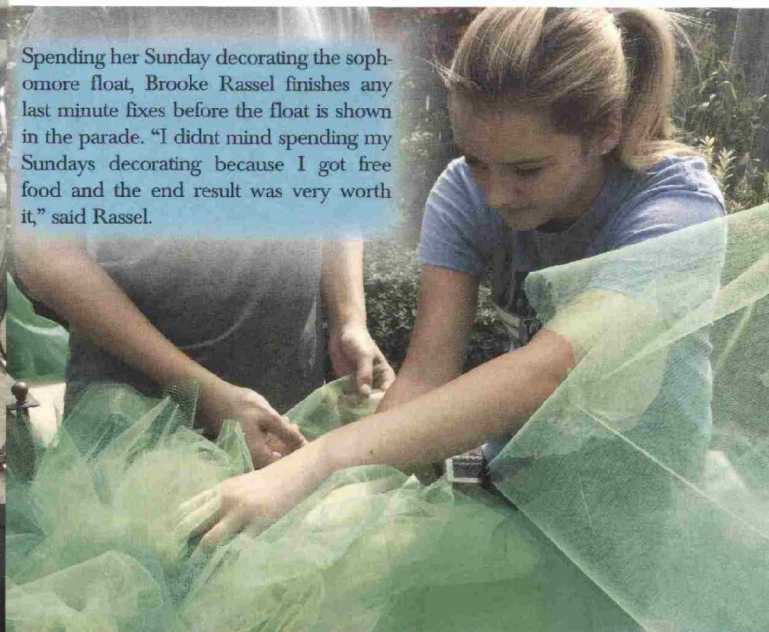


Matthew Thomas, 11 & Thomas Perez, 11



Shawn Graham, 11

Spending her Sunday decorating the sophomore float, Brooke Rassel finishes any last minute fixes before the float is shown in the parade. "I didn't mind spending my Sundays decorating because I got free food and the end result was very worth it," said Rassel.



Varsity Football Team



On the dreaded Tuesday morning of August 16, 2016, students and staff woke up bright and early to prepare themselves for the brand new school year. The start of a new year always brings struggles and new realities students have to face. Seniors came to the realization that their high school journey was quickly coming to an end, and prepared to start their life outside of high school. Juniors faced the harsh reality of how fast high school passes, and began their search for a college/career path that is right for them. Sophomores shook off the first year jitters and started getting the hang of how the school worked. Freshman came into the year confident it would be great and worked hard to make sure their first high school experience was one to remember.

Just as every new school year brings, many changes were introduced this year. Instead of the normal 8:00 a.m. start time, this year classes began at 7:30 a.m. Also, school now ended at 2:30 p.m. opposed to the regular 3:00 p.m. end time. With this new start time, students and staff both had to adjust their schedules to make sure they would make it to school on time. "It was really hard for me to wake up at first but once school started becoming more persistent, it was much easier. I enjoy getting out earlier, even though I do not enjoy waking up earlier. This new time is much better than the old one because there is so much more I can get done after school," said junior Sam Pelot.

Advocacy was removed from all students schedules. With the removal of this class, there are only seven class periods, rather than the eight periods the school has had in recent years. B lunch was now after 4th hour instead of 5th and C lunch was now during/after 5th hour depending on the students. "Not having an advocacy class has its ups and downs. Without the class, the school day seems to go by a lot faster than last year. On the downside, I do not have a 'free' period to get some of my homework done, but I'm glad that it is no longer a class," said senior Kasey Tinsley.

An abundance of new faces flooded the school this year. Along with the new students, thirteen brand new teachers were added to the English, Foreign Language, Science, Math, and Art departments. The teachers seemed to adapt well to the school, especially when they are welcomed by their students. "Coming into the highschool almost all of the teachers were new to me, so it makes me feel a little better knowing I'm not the only one who is new. Having a teacher who hasn't taught at Griffith is really cool because just as they are still learning their way around the school, so am I. It makes me less nervous," said freshman Ryan Kimmel. With all of these new additions, keeping classes to a reasonable amount of students was now much easier than in recent years, because of the amount of teachers in each department.

THIS SCHOOL IS hOURS

by: Natalie Halley and Taylor Grady

High school gives teens opportunities to make new friendships and memories that will be remembered for life. Although the majority of a student's life is filled with tests, homework, and projects, weekends give time for a rest from work. Friends get together for sleepovers, couples planned for the upcoming dances, and seniors prepared themselves for the next chapter of their lives. Many different things occur in a student's life, some involved themselves in coffee night or the talent show to perform their talents, while some go to a job after school everyday.

Over the summer, "Pokemon Go" became the most popular game on iPhones and Samsung. Pokemon Go is a free app where the Pokemon come to life in the real world. The app uses your location, so as you are walking, your avatar moves along the map. All over Griffith, many students hunted for the Pokemon with their friends. It's a virtual world where you collect Pokeballs so you can catch different Pokemon. You collect them at Pokey stops, which are places that generate the Pokeballs. The goal is to catch as many Pokemon as you can, and some are harder to find than others. They roam the land and the purpose is to find, capture and train the Pokemon to battle each other.

"I started playing Pokemon Go as soon as the app came out. I've always loved the game. I like to bring the Pokemon to higher powers to get more gems during battles," said senior Jessica Diaz.

Beginning the 2016-2017 school year, students had to be at the school at 7:30 a.m. rather than the usual start time at 8:00 a.m. Because of that, students had to wake up earlier resulting in a half hour less of sleep. The reason for starting earlier is because of not having enough buses for the ele-

mentary, middle, and high school. Even though we started earlier, we got out at 2:30 p.m., instead of 3:00 p.m. Students that are involved in sports had more time to get ready and more time to get to their games and practices.

During the month of October, something unusual began to occur across the nation. There were multiple sightings of people in clown outfits yielding weapons. Witnesses to clown appearances have said that the clowns would just sit or stand still and stare in your direction. Once it got closer to Halloween, the sightings became frequent and more eerie. Clowns were spotted in Cheever Park, Central Park, and South Park. Parents became worried for the safety of their families because of the clown epidemic that had now begun in Griffith.

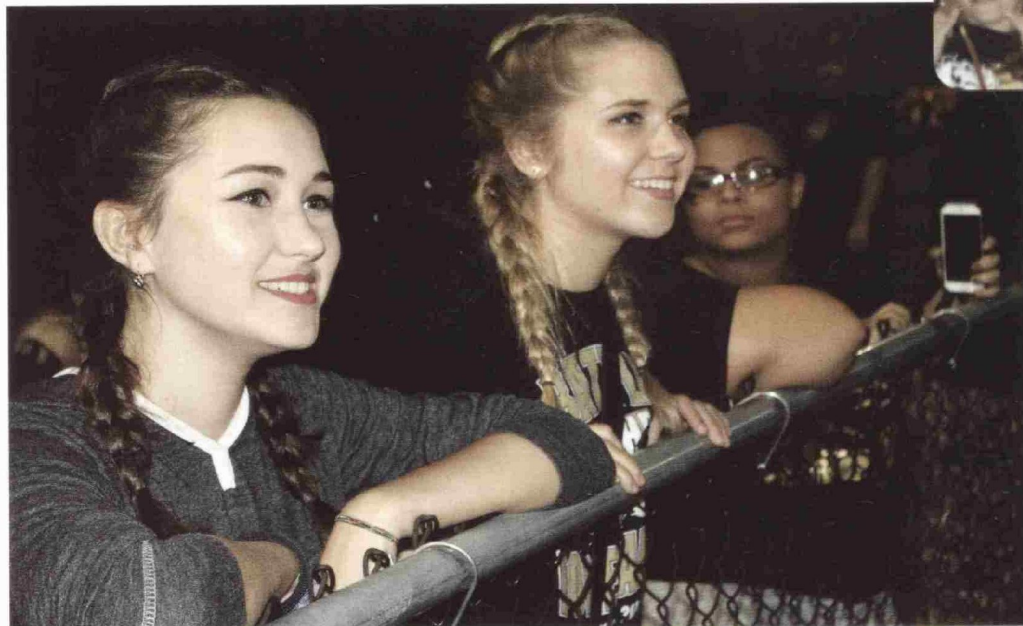
"My friends and I were walking to St. Mary's church, and we saw a clown sitting in a car. We ran away because we were freaked out," said sophomore Jessica Terzarial.

To escape the vigorous work, students looked forward to spirit week, and the homecoming game and dance. On the week of September 26 through the 30, students went all out to show their spirit for Dress Up, PJ, Hawaiian, Decade, and Black and Gold day. On Friday, the student body came together and cheered on the football team as they went against the Highland Trojans and won their first Homecoming game since 2013.

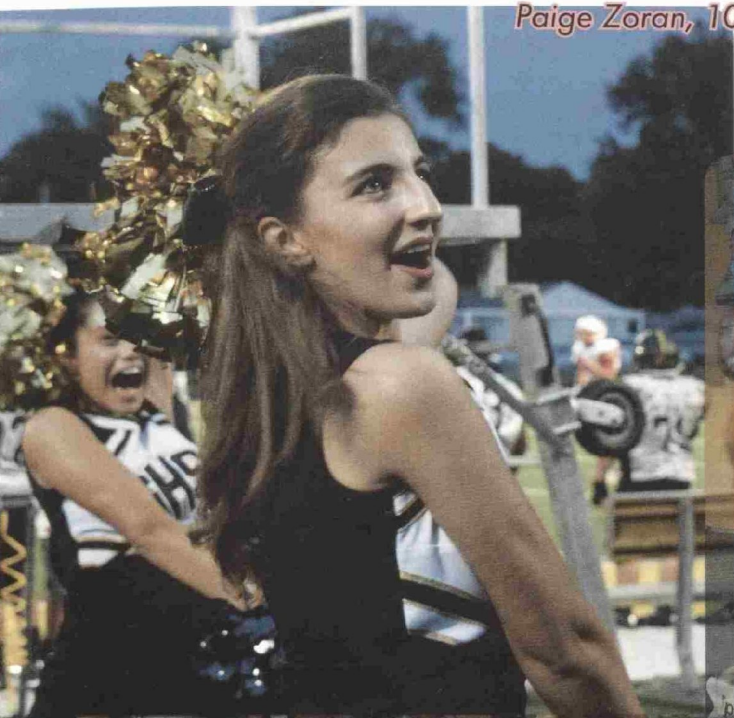
"I love going to the football games on Friday nights. When we score everyone in the stands go crazy, especially the football moms. The spirit and close-knit relationship of our town is very apparent. I always make sure to buy a box of Krispy Kreme donuts from the Pantherettes too," said junior Cassie Barnaby.

"My friends and I were walking to St. Mary's church, and we saw a clown sitting in a car. We ran away because we were freaked out," said sophomore Jessica Terzarial.

Not able to contain her excitement, junior Asia Pedrini, a foreign exchange student from Italy, enjoyed her first ever football game. "Seeing everyone cheering together was an amazing sight," said Pedrini.



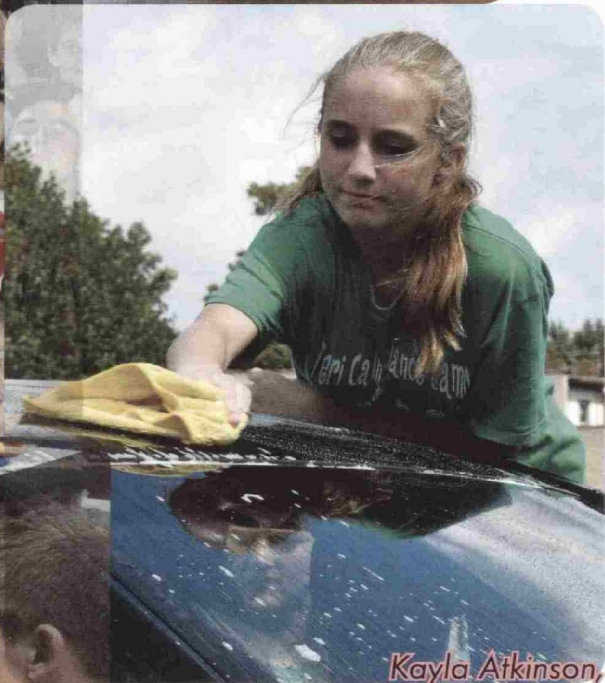
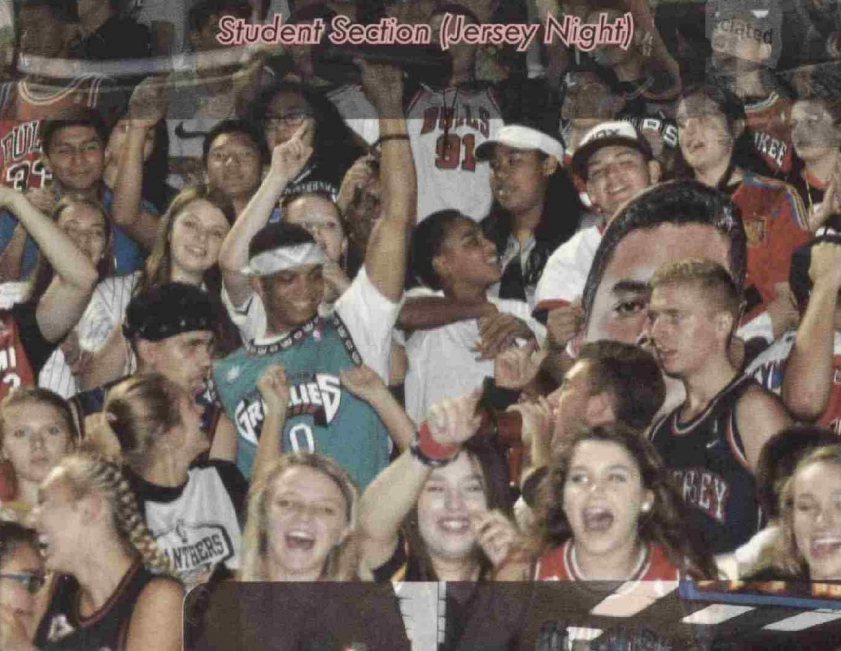
Paige Zoran, 10



Clarissa Mosely, 11



Student Section (Jersey Night)



Kayla Atkinson, 9

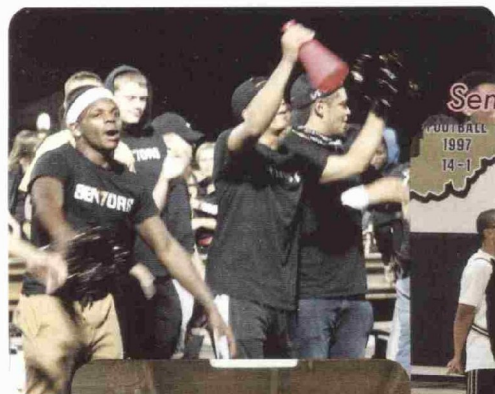
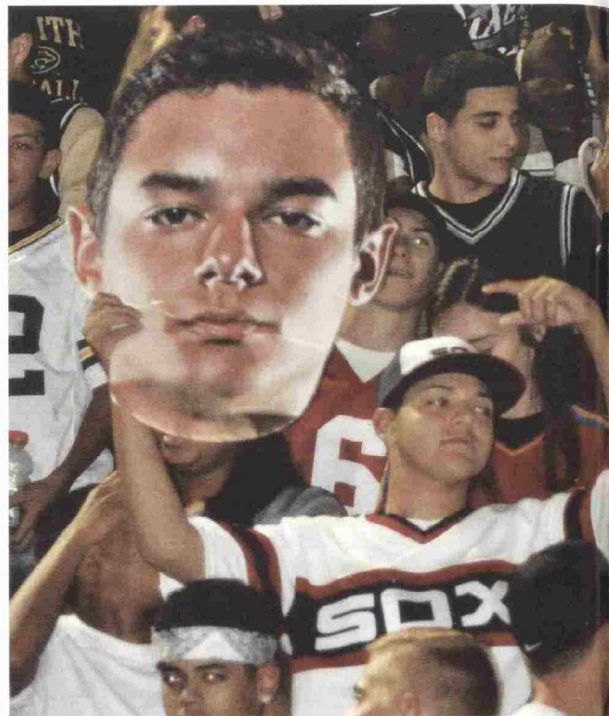


Madison Pearson, 9,
Mohammad Suboh, 9,
Ryan Davenport, 9

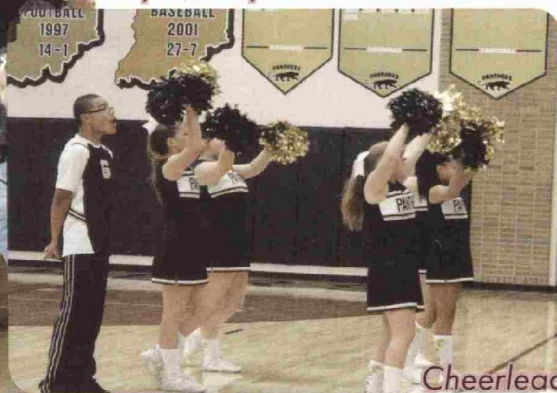
Live from Griffith High School, senior Luke Broelmann and his commentators do a play-bplay of the Griffith vs. Munster game. "The student section has become my favorite part of high school," said Broelmann.



While showing his school spirit on jersey night at a home football game, junior Xavier Romero represents Joey Martoccio by holding his "head". "I love Joey, he is the man," said Romero.



Senior powderpuff cheerleaders



Cheerleaders



USA theme



Pink out



With excitement on her face, senior Alyssa Schreiber rumbles with the student section at a home football game. "It's a tradition to wear my dad's old jersey on jersey night," said Schrieber.

To show his school spirit, senior Sean Bailey participates in the blackout theme. "When you have everyone together it's a different atmosphere and it gets crazy," said Bailey.



Attempting to handshake senior Carson Grin, junior Jared Cottrell joins in on the pink out theme. "It was a great way to celebrate Valentine's Day and senior night," said Cottrell.



1,2,3

EVERYBODY...

by: Erica Ward

"Everybody do that panther rumble, everybody... RUMBLE!" The student section goes wild, as the cheerleaders lead the panther fans in the rumble chant. Everyone in the crowd is singing and dancing to the beat. Many of the boys' basketball players say that Griffith High School's student section is the best in the region.

"Looking off the court and into the bleachers makes me realize how much our student section is one big family. We have the best fans," said senior Torin Dillon.

Every game they had a different theme to make the game more exciting, some of the themes consisted of blackout, jersey night, USA, beach, white out, and pink out.

"USA is by far my favorite theme because it's the one that gets almost 100% participation from all the grade levels," said junior Tatum Josephson. The teams always enjoyed seeing their fellow students cheering them on in the stands dressed in the theme.

Senior Matt McInerney is the head of student section; he plays a huge role in running the student section and

choosing the themes for every game whether it be boys' basketball, football, or girls' soccer.

"It's not that hard to choose a theme, I usually just run a poll on Twitter or get other people's opinions," said McInerney.

"USA is by far my favorite theme because it's the one that gets almost 100% participation from all the grade levels," said junior Tatum Josephson.

School spirit doesn't always mean dressing up for themes; there's never a day you don't see a student wearing a Griffith shirt to school or around town. The student section always pumped up the crowd, and it always made an impact on the way that the sports teams played.

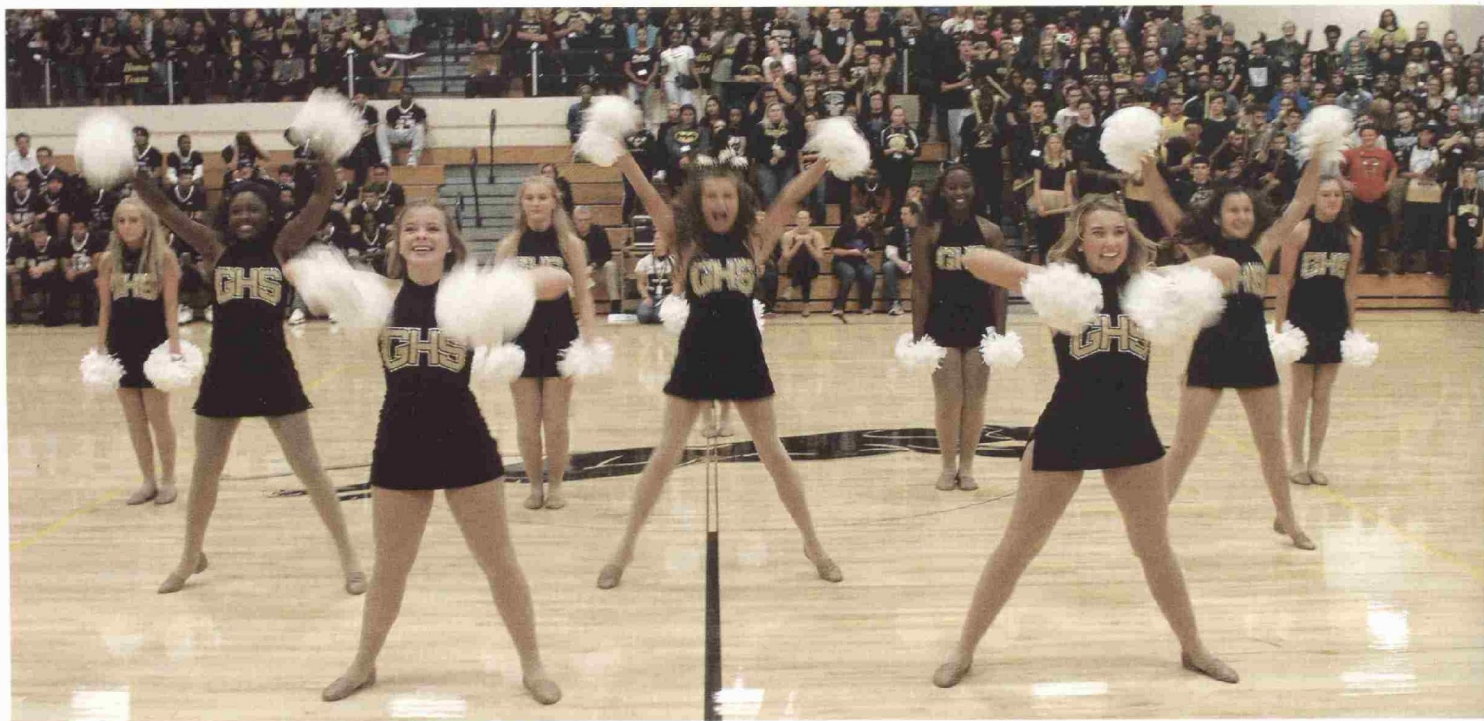
Another way students showed their school spirit was by dressing up the week before Homecoming. Everyday was a different theme that got everyone ready for the game on that Friday night and the dance the following night.

Besides forming a student section or dressing up for spirit days, students take it upon themselves to support individual players themselves by purchasing fan shirts, or writing their jersey number on any part of their body in face paint or liquid eyeliner.



WEEK OF WONDERS

by: Natalie Halley and Alexia Smith

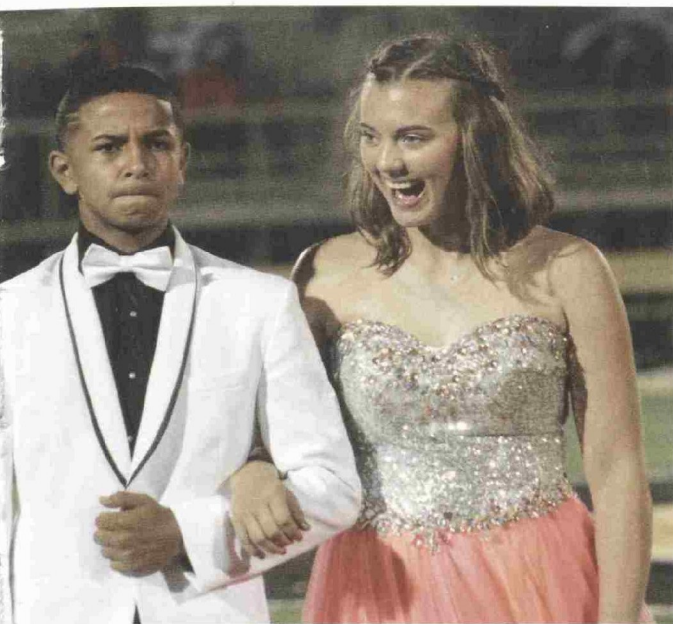


"I'm a junior that is graduating early, so getting to play against the people who I've grown up with was such a weird experience, but I enjoyed it," said senior Kaylyn Perez. Perez stopped the juniors multiple times for the senior powderpuff team.

Freshman Caroline Brown spent hours of practice with her team in preparation for the Homecoming Pep Rally. "This being my first year on the Pantherette dance team, I had to work harder considering I was in a new environment," said Brown.



Marching in style, senior Corynn Kealey leads the band during the Homecoming Parade. "Being a drum major during my last year of high school may be difficult at times, but it pays off," said Kealey.



Unable to hide their emotions, seniors Rachel Kruhaj and Keith Hernandez awaited crowning. "Although I didn't win, being on court with my childhood friend was extremely sentimental and a memorable experience," said Kruhaj.

Evan Queen, 12

Senior powderpuff cheerleaders



Class of 2017



Angelika Rodriguez, 11

Being the jokester he is, senior Zac Hilgeman and junior Jake Dye sling-shot kids with Ramen Noodles. "This is my last year, so I want to be someone people remember," said Hilgeman.

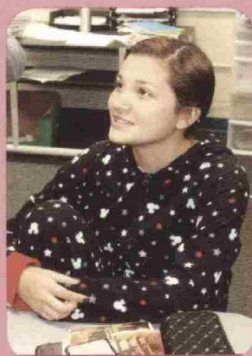
Homecoming Week

Dress Up Day



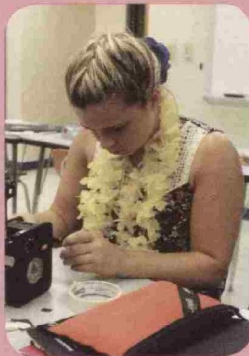
Alyssa Skertich, 12

Pajama Day



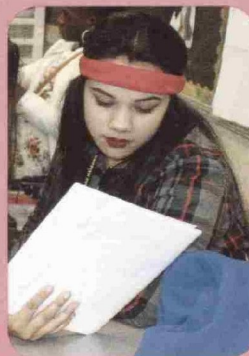
Gabrielle Quintana, 11

Hawaiian Day



Brooklyn Richardson, 12

Decade Day

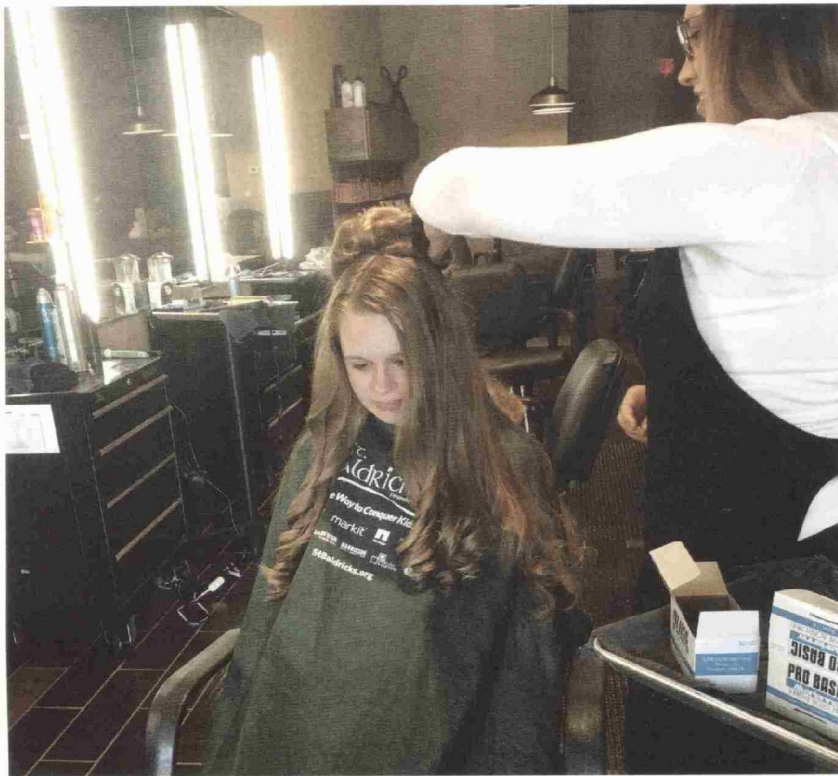


Angelica Nava, 12

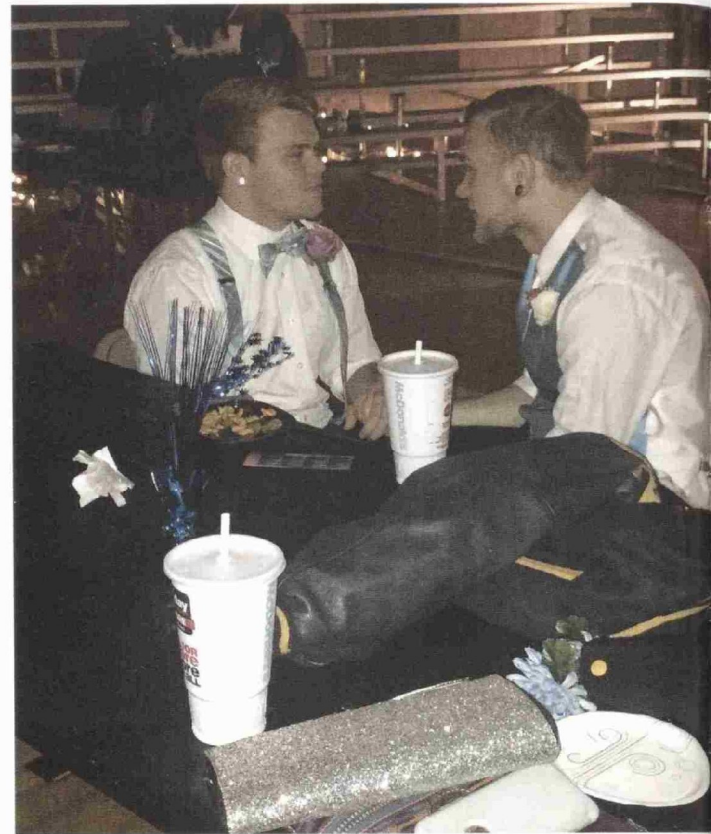
Black and Gold Day



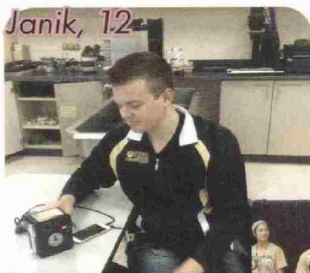
Damian Dayila, 10



One step closer to being dance ready, sophomore Molly Mills gets her hair done at Scissori in Highland. "Getting my hair done is my favorite part of the dance," said Mills.

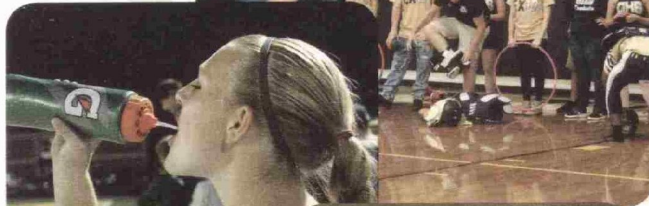


Jacob Janik, 12

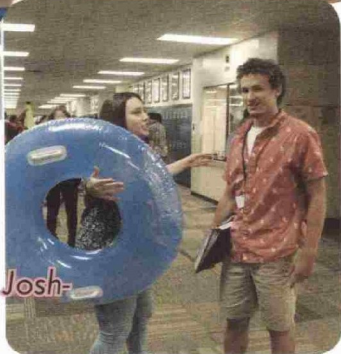


Taking a minute to get refreshed junior Collin Meadows gets a drink of water with his date. "My date made my junior homecoming the best one and by far my favorite dance," said Meadows.

Homecoming Pep Rally

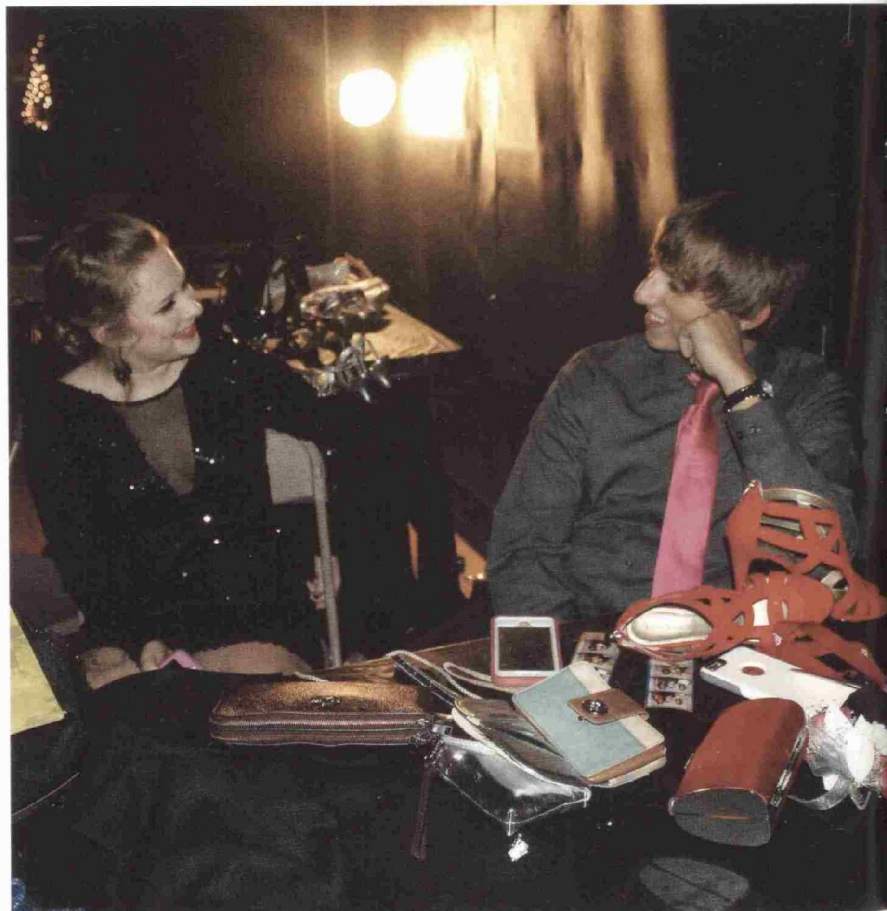


Marrissa Walter, 11



Erin Escorza & Josh Miller, 12

While taking a break from dancing, seniors Renee Adams and Hunter Conaghan talk about their last dance. "My last homecoming was by far one for the books," said Conaghan.



WONDERFUL TIME

by: Erica Ward

Saturday, October 1, Griffith hosted their annual homecoming dance in the field house following the homecoming game on Friday, where the Panthers defeated the Highland Trojans. Members of Student Council woke up early to be at the school in the field house by 8:00 a.m. to put up decorations that resembled the "Alice In Wonderland" theme. Set up ended around 12:00 p.m. Then, girls went on their way with hair, nail, and makeup appointments to get ready for a night of dancing.

Groups got together at various places such as homes, Centennial Park, or Central Park to take group photos and pictures with their dates and friends.

"Going with my date to my first homecoming made it so much more memorable and set the bar for the rest of my dances," said freshman Kayla Slachta.

The dance went from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. with the doors opening at 6:30 p.m. Students had the option to get their professional picture taken or go into the photo booth. DJ Music Boyz came back once again to play music. Some groups left the dance a little early to get seating at the

restaurant they were going to. Some of the places students went to included: TGI Fridays, Buffalo Wild Wings, Applebees, and Round the Clock.

The exciting weekend continued to Sunday morning when some students went to Six Flags for the day to ride rollercoasters. Others went to County Line Orchard to go apple picking and buy pumpkin or apple donuts. Most students just spent the day hanging out with their friends.

"Spending my last homecoming weekend with my best friends was a great time and it's something I will never forget," said senior Denny Colomes.

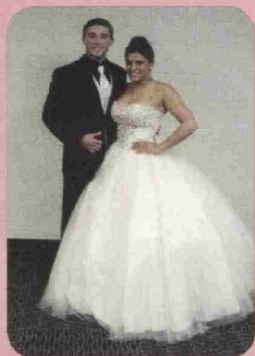
After a great night out, Student Council had to come back to the field house to tear down all the decorations Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. Then, they went out to lunch at Noodles & Company for a celebration of a job well

done.

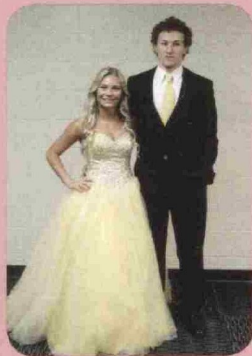
"Homecoming was an all-around great weekend with my friends and my girlfriend. I couldn't be more happy with the way the dance and the weekend turned out," said junior Josh Bacon.

"Spending my last homecoming weekend with my best friends was a great time and it's something I will never forget," said senior Denny Colomes.

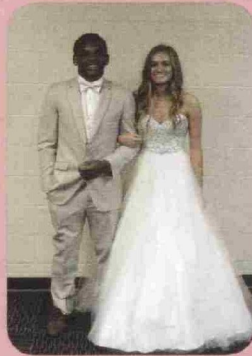
Homecoming Court



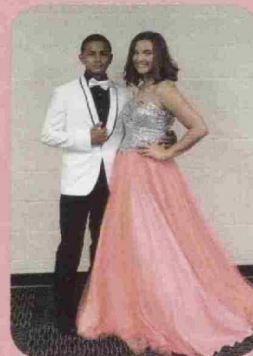
*Alec Seberger &
Raquel Renton*



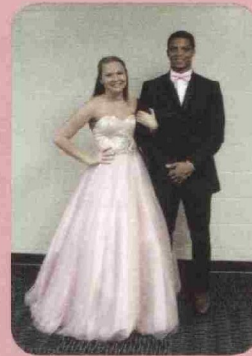
*Josh Miller & Megan
Miller*



*Tray Boone &
Breanna Hamilton*



*Keith Hernandez &
Rachel Kruhaj*



*Dana Jelenski & Al
Ervin*

AFTER HOURS

by: Julianne Long and Damian Villalpando

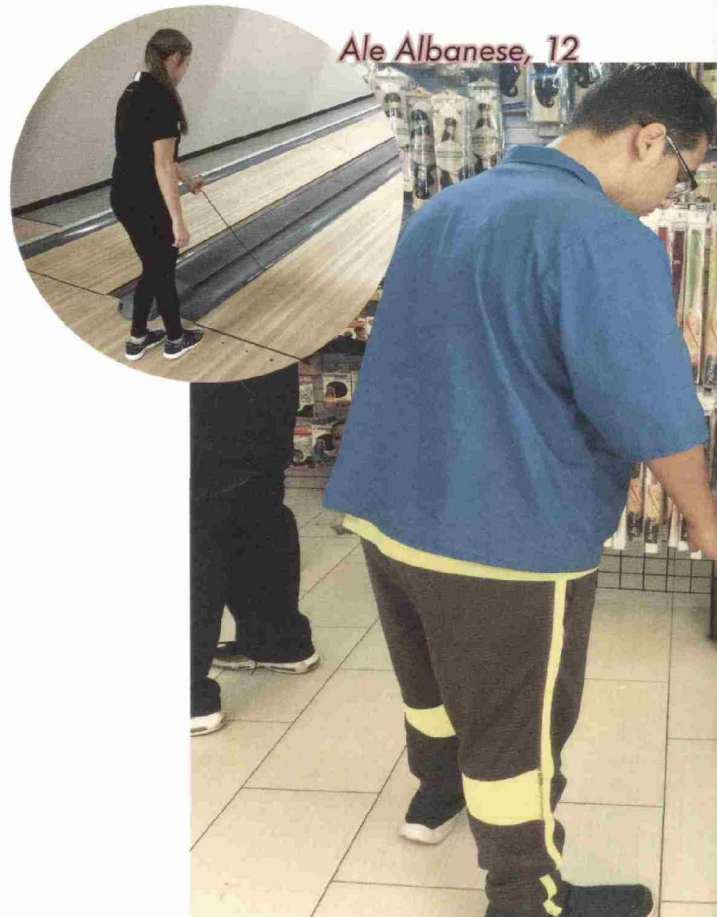
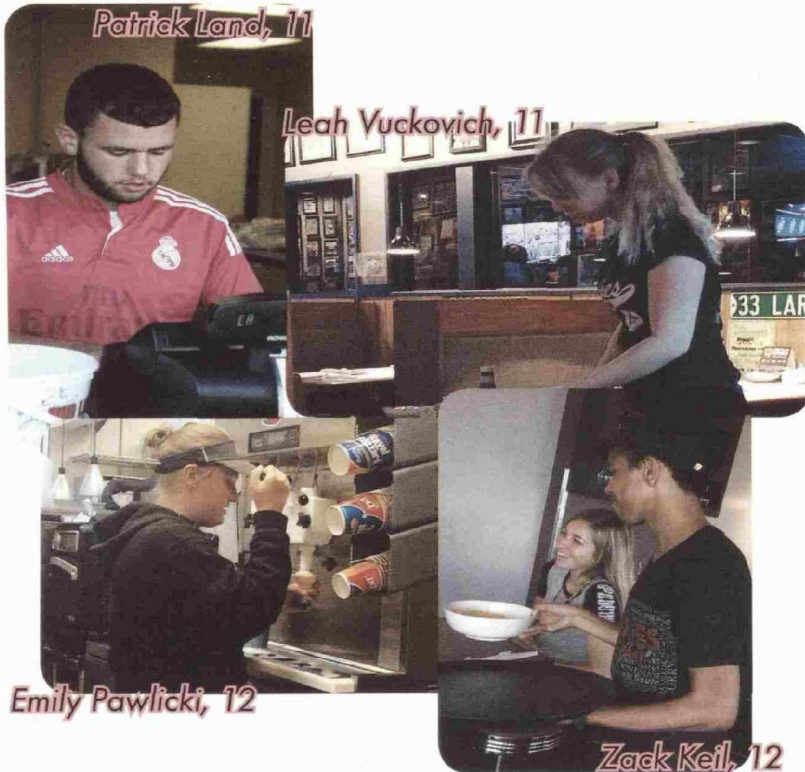
Having a job in high school can be difficult, especially for those who have to balance it with sports, friends, and their school work. It's time consuming, stressful, and at times it can seem like it's not worth the extra hair-pulling hassle that it brings. Some would even wait to get a job until their senior year, arguing that time is an all too precious commodity. For most people, however, working is a must. Getting a job allows an income that is solely for personal use and enjoyment. It also brings a sense of independence from family, as the reliance on them may no longer be as heavy. Working somewhere in high school gives some much needed experience for a future job down the line. When the hours become longer, the tasks become harder. A job can range from anything such as taking orders at a popular fast food chain, stocking the shelves at a nearby grocery store, or mopping and sweeping the floors at a family business.

Many students have jobs at local businesses around Griffith, Highland, and Schererville such as Culvers, Dunkin Donuts, Noodles & Company, or even at the school con-

cession stand, Deez Eats. Although a job can be tedious at times, many would argue that the perks outweigh the negatives, and that working throughout high school is a great idea. "I work to get money for myself so I can be happy. I have three jobs, working at the YMCA, Culvers, and Charcuterie," said senior Dana Jelenski.

"I plan things out ahead of time by keeping up with all of my work and not procrastinating. That's how I manage my tight schedule," said sophomore Trinity Page.

Having a job means endless interactions with people and coworkers. It helps students better their financial skills, social skills, time management skills, etc. Some students are too busy to maintain all the duties that come with having a job, but all around, it will benefit them more than not.



While at work, junior Victoria Metcalf scoops custard for a customer. "I love the people I work with which makes my job more enjoyable," said Metcalf.



Why work?



Kathryn Holt, 12

"I work at Noodles & Company to help support my family. I work 21 hours a week, for \$8.75 an hour. I love my job, because it is an element of challenge."

"I work at AMC movies because I'm only 15 and needed a job. I make minimum wage and work 18 hours a week. My favorite co-worker is Hunter Conaghan."



Anson Wright, 10



Hailey Moore, 11

"My mom is the manager of Dunkin Donuts so I've been there for seven months. I work 20 hours a week making \$7.50 an hour. The job is easy and I enjoy it."



Kaleisha Washington, 10

Calmly mopping the floors at M&M Beauty Supply, freshman Mohammad Suboh finishes up for the day. "I wanted to stop asking my mom for money, so my cousin let me work with him at M&M Beauty. It was a great opportunity for me," said Suboh.



Finishing up one of her last orders of the day, senior Leyah Hodge cooks rice. "I work at Panda Express because I help pay bills and I will need to pay off my loans. Panda Express pays extremely well which helps me out a lot," said Hodge.

COFFEE TIME

by: Vanessa Bullion and Haley Dixon

There is more to this event than just the brewing of coffee on this warm Wednesday night. On September 14, 2016 the Griffith High School Choir sponsored the annual Coffee Night.

The event took place outside in the courtyard since there was favorable weather. Tickets were sold for \$5 at the entrance. Students that brought a CD, purchased a ticket for \$4. Tickets included a free hot chocolate or coffee, three voting tickets, and the show. Additional voting tickets were \$2 each. Snacks included cookies, brownies, muffins, etc., and additional drinks cost \$1.

Try-outs took place on Wednesday, August 31 after school. Students had to try-out in front of choir teacher Kristin Anderson. "I was nervous and the whole thing was nerve-racking, but at the same time I felt confident enough in my abilities to know that I was going to do great," said junior Amari Harris.

Students who didn't want to participate in the show helped to do other things such as working booths, selling tickets, bringing in baked goods, and handing out perfor-

mance schedules.

There were numerous booths at the event. There was a photo booth where students could dress up and take pictures, another included CDs brought to be sold, and lastly a booth that sold Griffith sunglasses for \$6.

There were a total of ten performances that ranged from singing to playing the saxophone. Juniors Jessie Rosario and Nina Mendoza introduced each performer and his or her act. The top three acts included junior Ali Schoon, freshman Jaclyn Bobos, and juniors Maurice Grandberry and Deleah Walker. The first place prize of \$50 went to Bobos.

"I did not expect to make it to the top three, but when I heard my name called it was like an accomplishment," said Schoon.

As the instruments and microphones filled the stage, the area filled with applauding and smiles from the audience. "I went to support the school and to see how choir is helping people. I mostly wanted to go because I'm considering joining Choir next year," said sophomore Kaleisha Washington.

"I always get nervous when I sing in front of crowds, but I'm trying to get over my fear by performing more and more," said freshman Jaclyn Bobos.

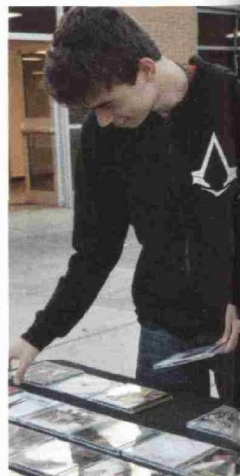


Performing "Safe and Sound", junior Lily Desler sings her heart out. "I was nervous at first after seeing the crowd, but eventually the jitters went away," said Desler.



While working the photo booth, junior Julia Medrano takes a group picture. "I loved to watch everyone dress up in the props and take pictures," said Medrano.

At the CD booth, juniors Jeremy Paganelli and Giovantoe Johnson look at the available disc options. "I was interested to see what they had," said Paganelli.





With an active table, junior Kaylyn Perez gives out tickets. "I loved working this table because there was always someone there so it kept me busy the entire time," said Perez.



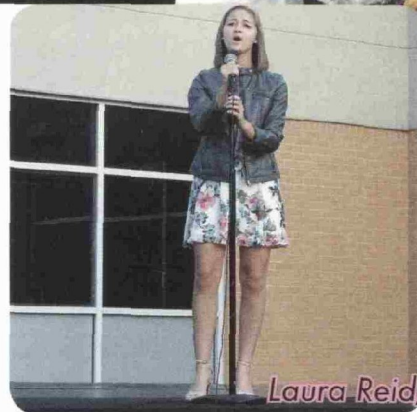
Trevor Sheffield, 12



Emma Loomis, 10



Brich Strezo, 9



Laura Reid, 11

"We chose to sing 'Sunday Candy' because we both knew it by heart," said junior Deleah Walker after performing with junior Maurice Grandberry.

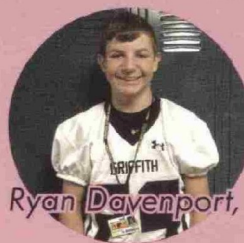


Favorite performance



Melanie Vera, 12

"My favorite performance was Jaclyn because she overall just had a great performance but she pushed herself even further after making it to the top three and having to sing a song she didn't really know so she winged it and still did great."



Ryan Davenport, 9

"My favorite performance was Skylar and Leanna mainly because Skylar is my sister and she is the whole reason I went. I wanted to show support for them but I still overall enjoyed their performance that night."

AROUND TOWN

by: Grace Opinker

Each year, Griffith seems to grow closer as a community. Students gathered at local events and were actively involved with our town. Throughout the school year, Griffith had different events in the town. Griffith hosted the Central Market, the Western Days Festival, Community Day, and the Rock n' Rail Fest.

On Fridays, from May to October, Central Park hosted the Central Market. Vendors from the area came to sell their different cultural foods. "I enjoy going to the market because they have tasty tamales and I love Ben's Soft Pretzels," said sophomore Taylor Hill. During the evenings at the market, different bands also played.

Annually during August, the St. Mary's Western Days Festival takes place. St. Mary's church organizes the festival. There are rides and food booths to eat at. "I go to Western Days to go on rides; especially my favorite, the Matterhorn. I also like to eat the elephant ears," said freshman Ryan Dudlicek.

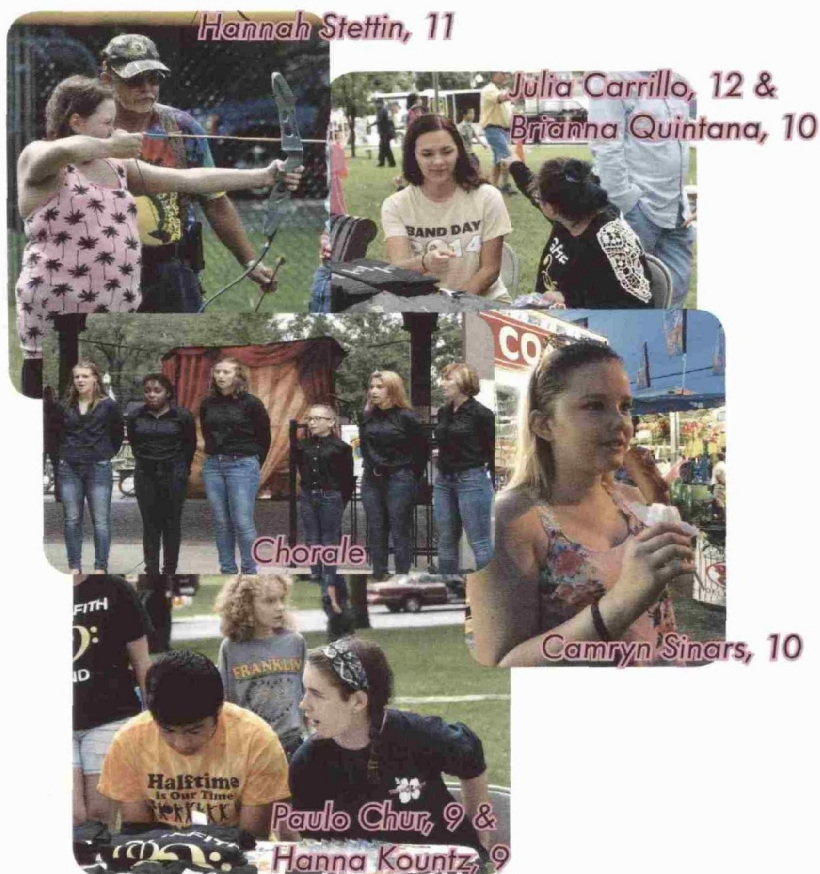
Towards the end of August, Griffith hosted its annual Community Day. Students from GHS could participate in

helping out for different clubs and sports teams. "I participated in influencing others to help keep the earth clean. Throughout the town members work together to clean local parks, softball fields, and the football field," said sophomore Kirsten Edwards. Other booths sold snacks and informed visitors of their particular booth.

"Western Days is my favorite community event because I'm a ride fanatic and can go on multiple different rides there," said senior Hollie Witvoet.

During September, Griffith had the Rock n' Rail fest. The town closes off part of Broad Street. Each night, there are different bands that play at the main stage. "I go to the fest with friends to watch the bands play. My favorite performance was the Pink Floyd tribute band," said freshman Abby Wroblewski. There also was a variety of cultured foods.

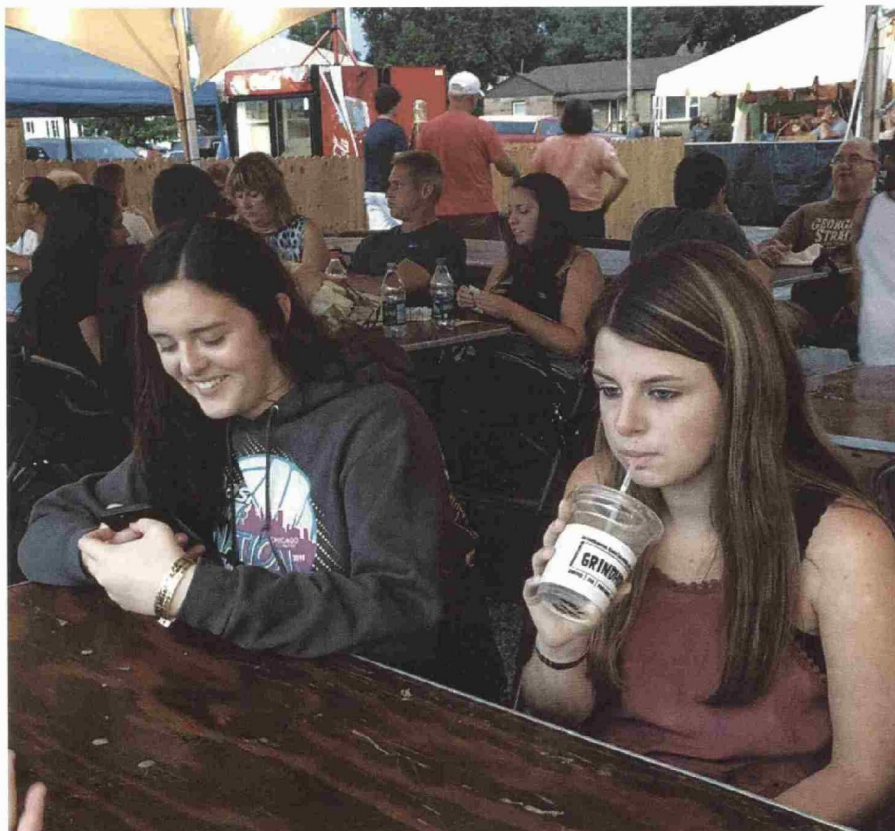
Griffith always finds ways to make the community closer. Different events throughout the year let students become active within the town. "I enjoy being apart of the community because it makes me feel better about myself knowing I can help out around town," said sophomore Reta Haddad. Although Griffith is a small town, everyone is included in some certain way.



"I have been a cadet firefighter for four years and I enjoy it because I get to respond to fire calls," said junior Mark Whitlock. Whitlock helped out at Community Day.

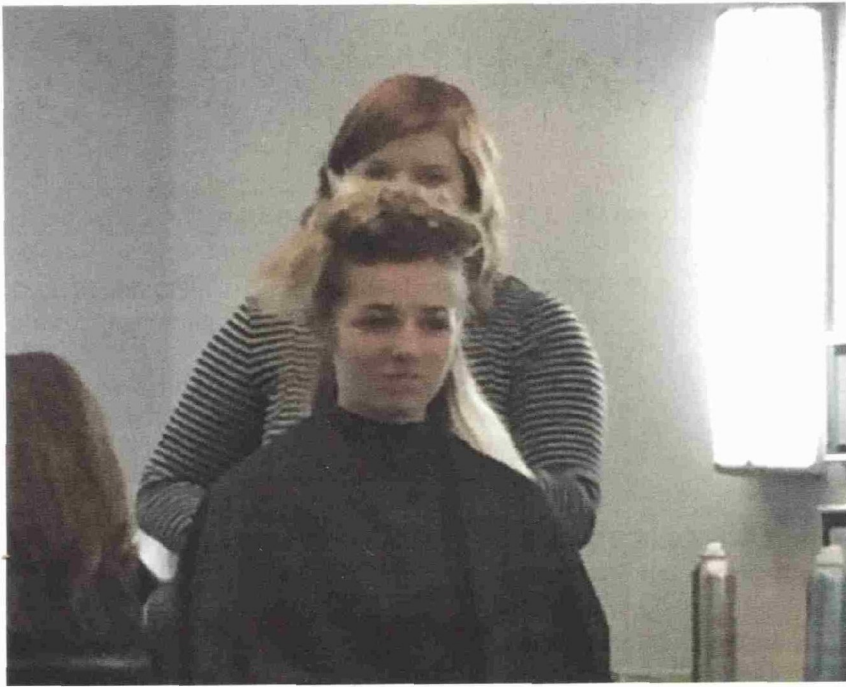


Sitting at St. Mary's Western Days Fair, sophomores Jenna Brown and Morgan Willis relax from walking. "I go to the fair because it is entertaining and I enjoy the Mexican taco booth," said Brown.



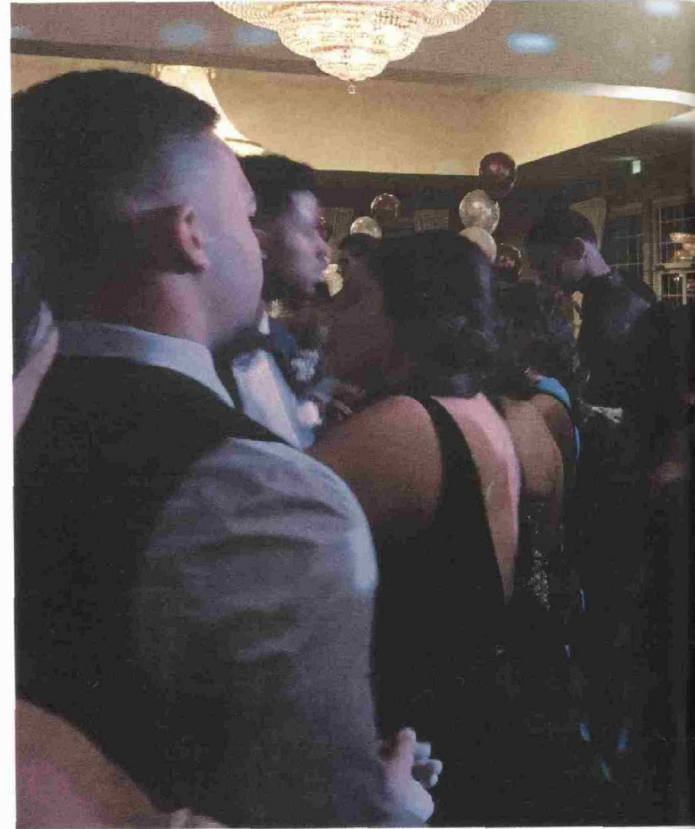
Varsity cheerleaders sold chocolate covered pretzels at Community Day. Junior Haley Gearheart worked with freshmen, Olivia Haley, Andria Johnson, and Hayley Ratliff. "I was excited to be able to sell items to community members," said Ratliff.

During Community Day, sophomore Maddie Nolan and junior Luke Haney work the Bible Study Booth. "We informed students about Bible study and when it is," said Nolan.



In the midst of the dancing, students cycle in and out of the dance floor, just moments before the 2017 Turnabout Court is announced. The court danced and walked down the aisle before announcing the winners.

Preparing for the dance, junior Lauren Atkinson is enjoying her 3:30 hair appointment. "I left school early to go to my hair appointment. I went with some of my friends to get my make-up done, got dressed, and went to the dance. The DJ was great this year," said Atkinson.



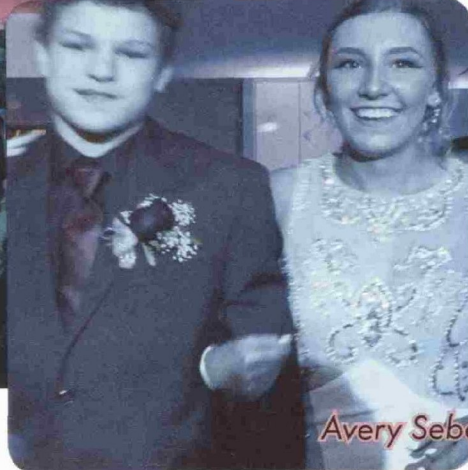
Alaa Mroueh, 11



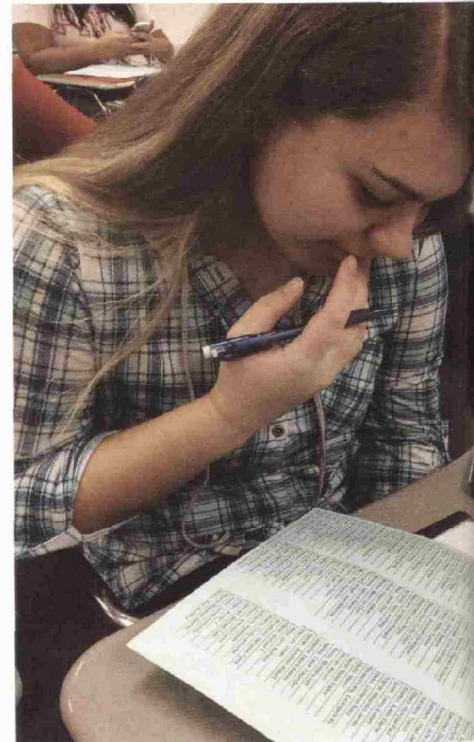
Turnabout Dance Floor



Drew Davenport, 10



Avery Seberger, 10



TURNING BACK TIME AT TURNABOUT

by: Evan Queen

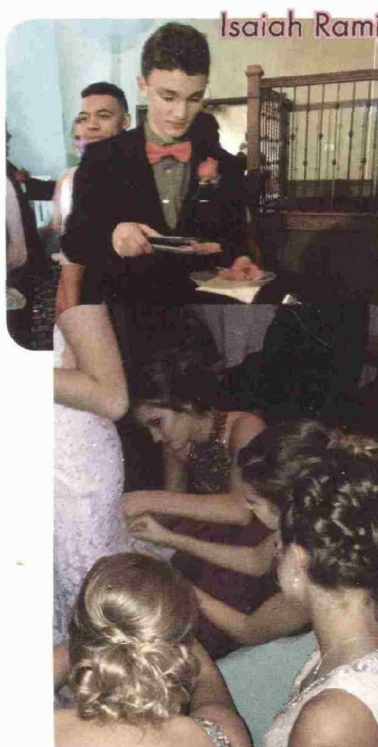


The 2016 Turnabout Prince and Princess, Jake Dye and Trinity Austin, party down the aisle before passing their crown off to the new prince and princess. "It felt nice to win my sophomore year, but it also felt amazing to pass off the crown," said Austin.



Deciding who deserves to be on Turnabout court, sophomore Trinity Page chooses which guys she wants to hear announced over the intercom. "It was tough, but who I voted for won," said Page.

Students begin to arrive at Avalon Manor as the doors open at 6:30 on January 27th. Chatter, pictures, and dancing have begun in order for the dance to fully start.



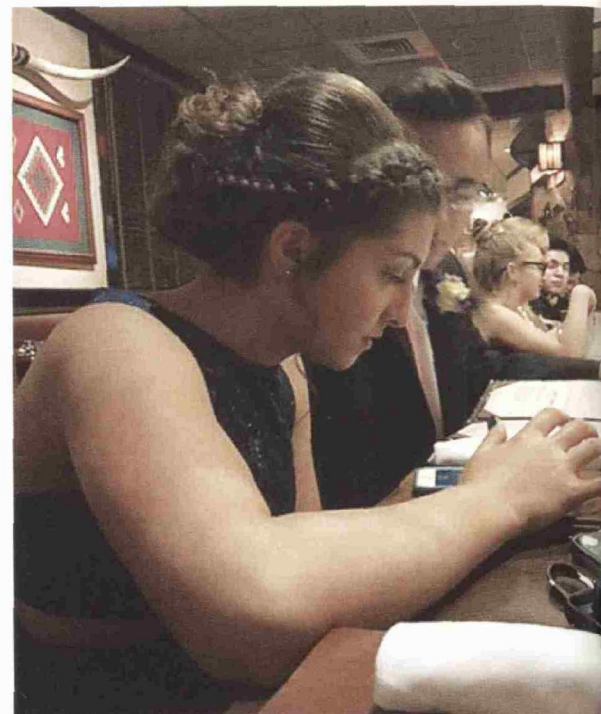
Isaiah Ramirez, 12

Max Carroll, 12 &
Renee Mierzwa, 12

Brooke Rassel, 10, Lauren
Atkinson, 10, & Jessica
Terzari, 10

Nolan Ruiz, 9 &
Ashley Laskarin, 9

Patiently waiting for her food to come, freshman Catherine Brzycki shows freshman Curtis Carter the picture they took earlier at the dance. "After the dance we went to Longhorn Steakhouse and then a friends house to watch a movie," said Brzycki.



IT'S TIME FOR "YOU AND I"

by: Julianne Long and
Stephanie Lester

On Friday, January 27, students waited anxiously to leave school after 5th hour to get ready for Turnabout 2017. Class of 2019 put together the theme of "You and I," based on the John Legend song. The colors were maroon, silver/grey, and white. "That was the best dance I ever attended. Everyone was dancing when the music was good, and everyone was dancing when the music was bad. The sophomores did a great job putting it together," said junior Alaa Mroueh. The doors opened at 6 p.m. and the dance floor was filled by 7 p.m.

Grade 10 voted for Turnabout Court Tuesday, January 17. Boys voted for five girls and the girls voted for five boys.

Students waited anxiously at the start of the week. In preparation for the dance, students got manicures, pedicures, spray and sun tans, haircuts, eyebrow waxing/threading, etc. "The week of the dance is so stressful, but in the end my eyebrows looked so good thanks to Happy Nails. I also loved my nails which I got done at Great Nails," said freshman Yanette Martinez.

Updos and makeovers are the final touch for girls before

they leave for the dance. "I loved getting my hair done, especially my makeup because my girl always does such a great job and she made me look so pretty," said junior Merry Galindo.

The food at the dance is always a huge favorite. Wings, fruit trays, mozzarella sticks, and sandwiches were some that were offered.

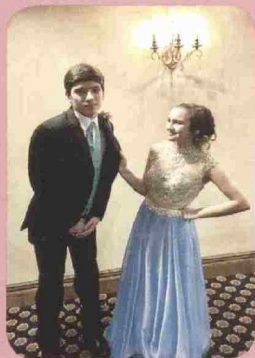
The Prince and Princess were announced halfway through the night. Junior Erica Ward announced Drew (Bubba) Davenport and Avery Seberger.

After the dance, many groups went out to eat or on party buses. "All the dancing on the party bus was so exciting and so was walking around Chicago after. Being with all my best friends is the part that I will remember most," said sophomore Taylor Hill.

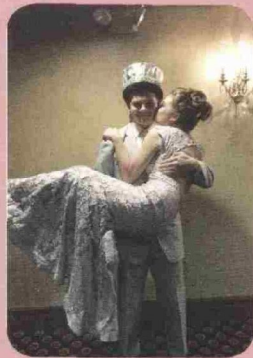
"I helped chose the theme of the dance and it was exciting to see that everyone really enjoyed it. I felt like a big part in the dance coordinating. The most shocking part of the whole dance was the fist fight in the middle of the dance floor," said sophomore Jaedynn Williamson.

**"That was
the best dance
I ever attended....
the sophomores
did a great job
putting it together,"
said junior Alaa
Mroueh.**

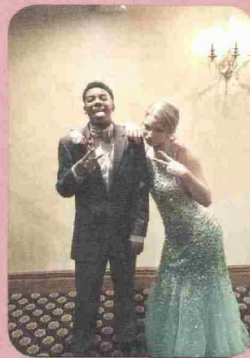
Turnabout Court



*Cole Cervantes &
Nina Cima de Villa*



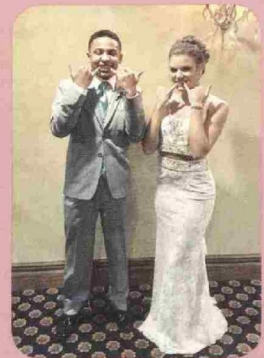
*Bubba Davenport &
Julianne Long*



*Craig Gordon &
Macie Miller*



*Kyle Inwinski &
Avery Seberger*



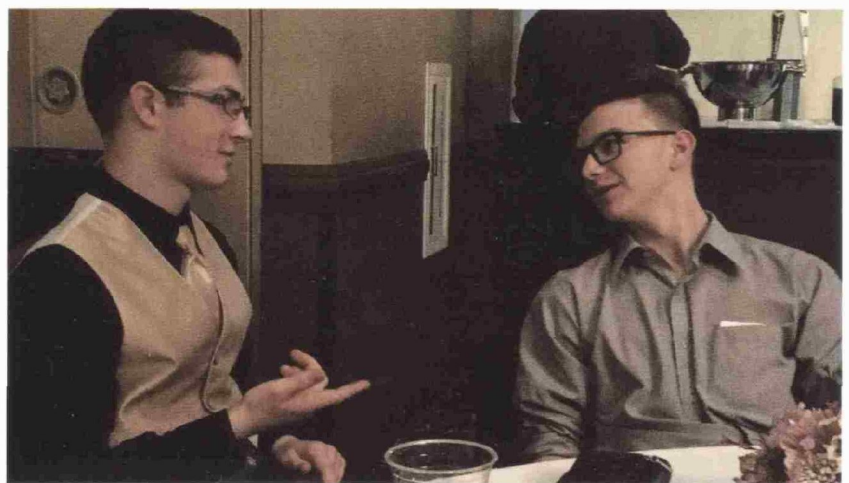
*Aj Wright &
Jessica Terzarial*

To make her sophomore turnabout extra special, Vanessa Pena, and her group for the dance, rented a party bus. "The best part of the party bus was being able to dance the whole time that we're driving to and from the restaurant instead of just sitting and waiting," said Pena.



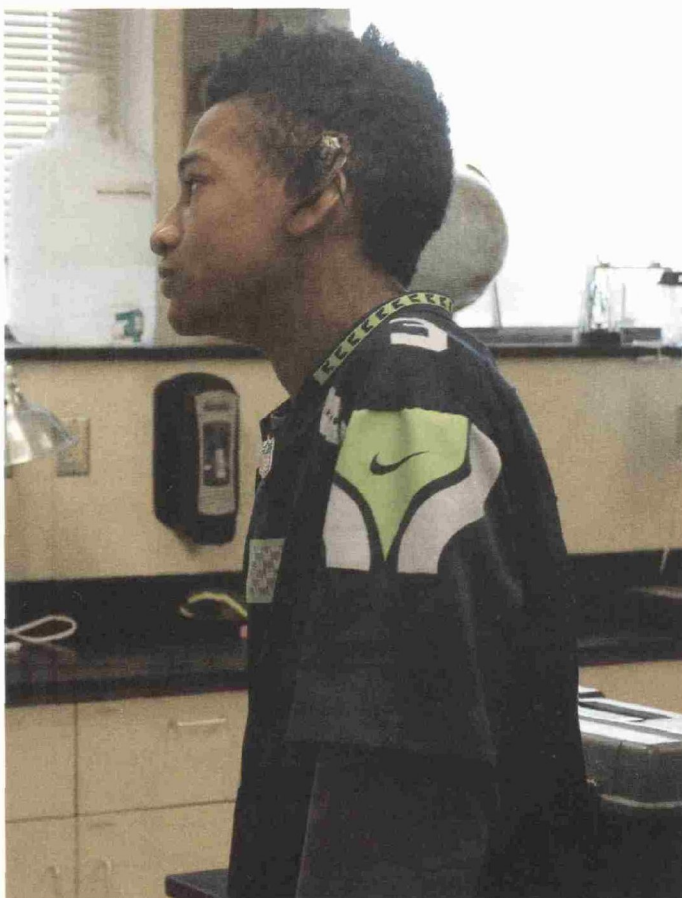
Requesting a song for the DJ Music Boyz to play, sophomore Erica Dross writes down "Wobble." "One of my favorite parts of Turnabout was the music. They played really good music and right after I requested a song, it came on," said Dross.

"At turnabout, Will [Carroll, 10] and I planned out what we were going to do afterwards. Our group decided to go to Bridges Scoreboard to eat wings and pizza," said sophomore Matt Dilidne, while talking to Carroll.



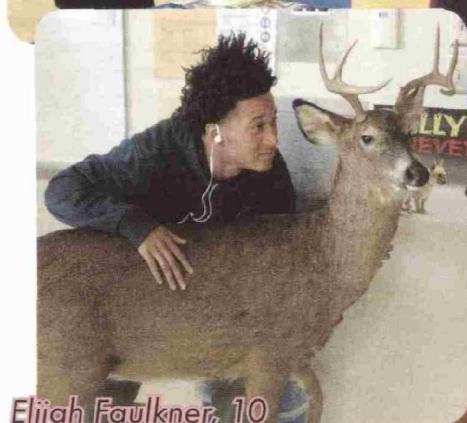
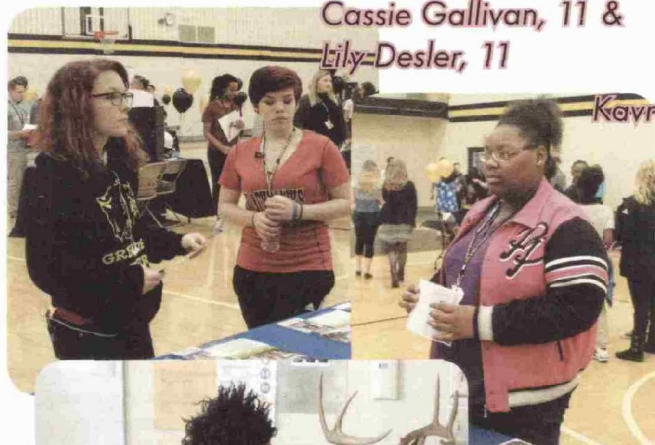
Reaching into a bag full of stress balls, freshmen Bruce Carman and Carleigh Linders each pull one out provided by Cabelas. "I appreciated that Cabelas gave us all a souvenir," said Linders.

Bravely facing his fears, sophomore Kevon Tillman allowed a roach to be placed on his ear in front of his Biology class. "I wanted to experiment something new," said Tillman.

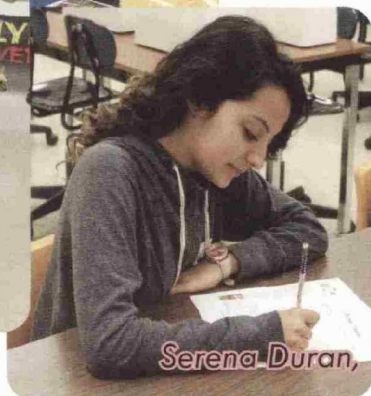


Cassie Galliyan, 11 &
Lily-Desler, 11

Kayresha Walls, 9

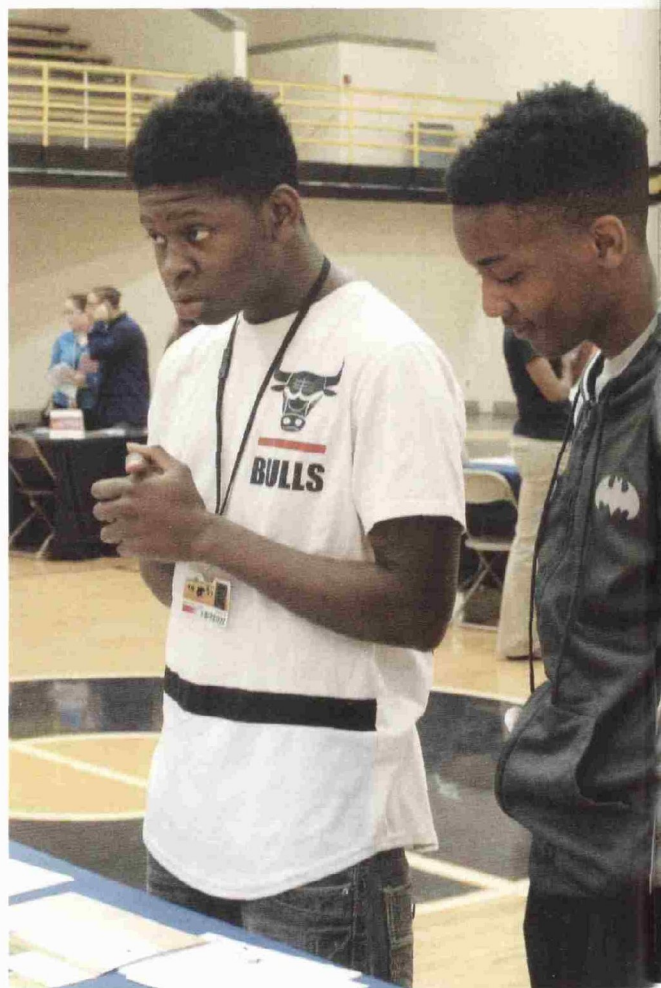


Elijah Faulkner, 10

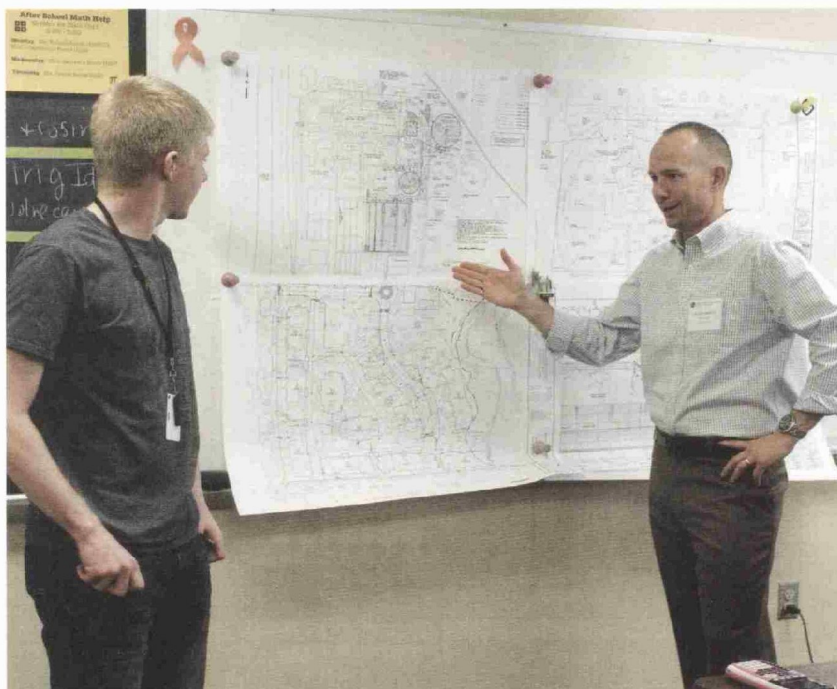


Serena Duran, 10

Since sophomores Jeremiah LuVert and Joshua Reynolds attended the college fair, they could get ideas for the future. "The college fair had a wide variety of colleges I may want to attend," said LuVert.



When freshman Hunter Baker walked into the classroom and saw the dog he immediately asked its owner if he could pet it. "I was glad a dog was brought in because I'm very fond of dogs," said Baker.



Socializing with an engineer, sophomore Myles Taylor was informed about engineering. "The engineer was interesting because I want to go into that career field one day," said Taylor.

decision TIME

by: Rhiannon Banks & Grace Opinker

On March 24, 2017 the annual career day was hosted at Griffith High School. Over forty speakers from a variety of professions came to talk to students about their careers. "I really enjoyed being able to listen to all of the different speakers talk about their careers for a part of the day. Hearing them all made me excited to get a job and go to college for a career. I plan on getting a job over the summer as well," said junior Zach Fisch.

The school prepared for this day by gathering a group of respectable students to be the ambassadors for the day, and show each guest speaker their way around the school and to their assigned classroom. "I volunteered to be an ambassador for the day because it seemed like something I would have fun doing since I'm such a people person. It was a great experience and I plan on doing it next year in hopes that more of my friends will do it with me," said freshman Olivia Halley.

In each classroom, there was a different speaker talking about their career. The school day was modified to fit in each speaker. Students went to their first through fifth

class periods to listen to speakers, and then continued the day on as normal, until the end of the day in which students were able to go to the fieldhouse for the college fair.

"The day was a laid back school day and I liked it very much. Being able to skip my first three classes lifted a lot off of my shoulders because those are the my most dreaded classes. Also, having the speakers and college fair really opened my eyes to all of the options I have for my future career and college decision," said junior Daniel Burbridge.

Not only did the school host different speakers to talk about their career, but multiple representatives were invited to give students insight about their campus, requirements to get in and answer many more questions any student had. "I haven't decided where I want to go for college yet, but being able to attend the college fair answered almost all of the questions I had about college life, tuition, requirements and how many students attend the campus's I am interested in," said senior Phillip Cherry.

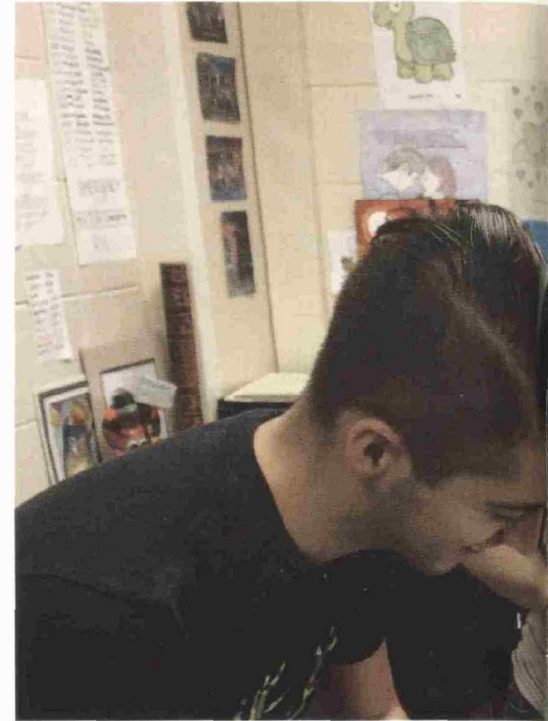
This event will continue to be a tradition for the school.

"This is a great idea for all schools to host because it helps undecided students decide what they want to do in the future," said senior Ariana Muniz.





Arguing over baseball, junior Stephen Kunka and senior Jacob Rothchild disagree over which team is better. "I've waited my whole life for the Cubs to win the World Series and a lot of people said they would never do it, so I was happy to be able to prove those people wrong," said Kunka.



TREND SETTERS

by: Rhiannon Banks

Every year brings new fashions that students enjoy and trends that spread all over the school. This year, some new things that stormed the halls were the comeback of Crocs and Birkenstocks. Students began wearing the shoes over the summer.

The old card game that both adults and teenagers used to enjoy came back to life over the summer. Pokemon Go was released in the app store. The app lets you walk or drive around in search of the famous Pokemon characters. Using your own phone camera, you were able to catch the Pokemon to keep for your own.

The Cubs have also made a huge name for themselves and have become very popular over the past years for their winning streaks. Students have been tweeting and wearing Cubs attire ever since they won the 2016 World Series Championship.

Apple also started an uproar, with the release of the iPhone 7 and the update of iOS 10. Many students purchased the new phone and showed it off to their friends. "When I first got my iPhone 7, I was so excited to finally have a nice phone that I

posted it all over Snapchat and a lot of people were asking me about it. It's a great phone, even if it doesn't have an aux. The camera quality is amazing so all of my selfies look great," said sophomore Daanah Suboh. Also, with the new iOS 10 update, students are able to play games through iMessage. Some games that are available to play include: 8-Ball, Poker, Sea Battle, Anagrams, Checkers, Knockout, etc. "My favorite game to play is 8-Ball. Some of my friends would play it and I thought it was something cool to try. I enjoy playing against my friends and I've become very good at playing. The game is nothing like actual pool though," said freshman Tyree Riley.

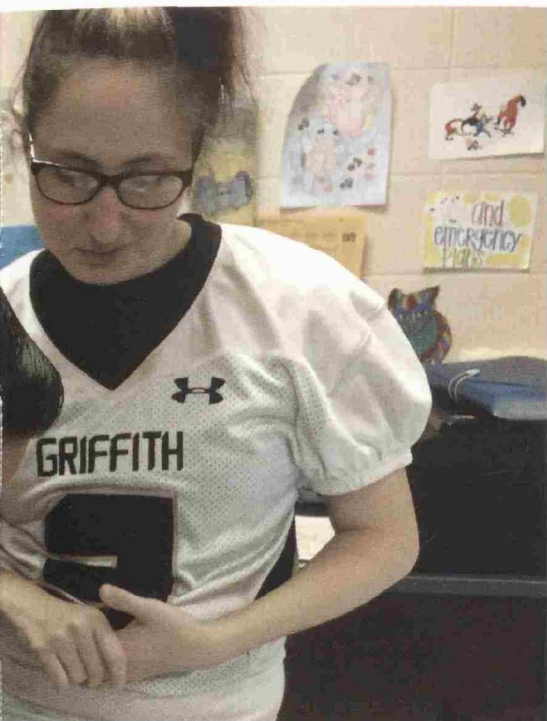
One of the newest food fads of GHS is the mexican restaurant called El Amigo. This restaurant, located in Schererville, is very popular among the juniors and seniors of the school. After games, it is a hit place to eat at.

The most recent trend is called the #mannequinchallenge. In this challenge, real people pretend to be mannequins by staying still in crazy positions. The cheer team, basketball team, swim team, and pantherettes have all done this challenge.

"I always try to keep myself up to date on all the fashion and game trends at the school. It makes me feel confident," said freshman Alyssa Carter.



On every Friday during football season, teachers had the option to wear a players jersey. Jenna Candiano, history teacher, wore sophomore Ernest Johnson's jersey all day. "Being able to wear the jersey allows me to show my support," said Candiano.



While on vacation over fall break, sophomore Morgan Willis got her hair cornrowed. "I've always wanted it done and I'm very satisfied with how it turned out," said Willis.

Crocs vs. Birks



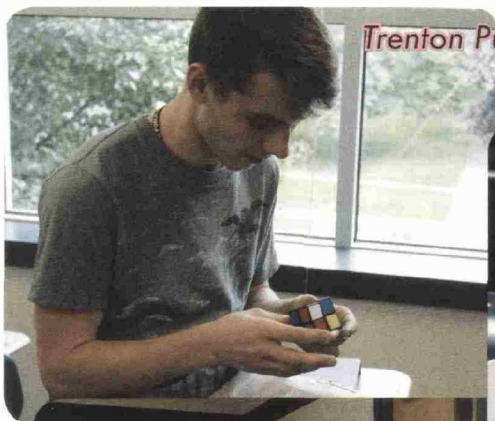
Hannah Ramirez, 11

"I've always loved wearing Crocs and they finally came back in style the past few years. I have almost every color and a lot of styles. I enjoy wearing them because they are adorable and comfortable. I have pattern, fuzzy, and regular styles. My favorite colors to wear are purple and mint green. I love wearing the fuzzy Crocs during winter and fall."

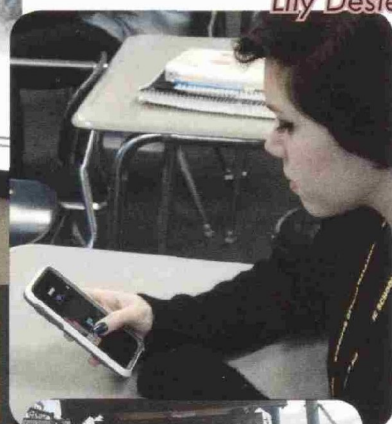


Avery Seberger, 10

"I was the first person at the school to ever wear 'Jesus sandals' and all of my friends made fun of me for wearing them, but now they all wear them too. Wearing Birkenstocks is so easy, they just slide on and are very comfortable. They are the perfect summer shoe and can even be worn in the winter with socks. I love wearing wacky designed ones."



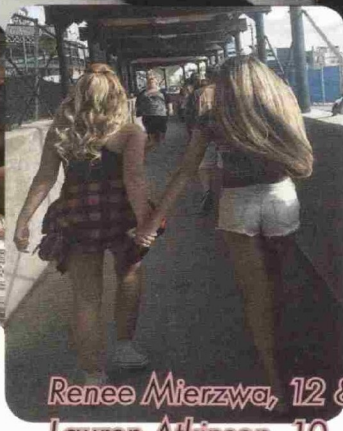
Trenton Pulliam, 11



Lily Desler, 11



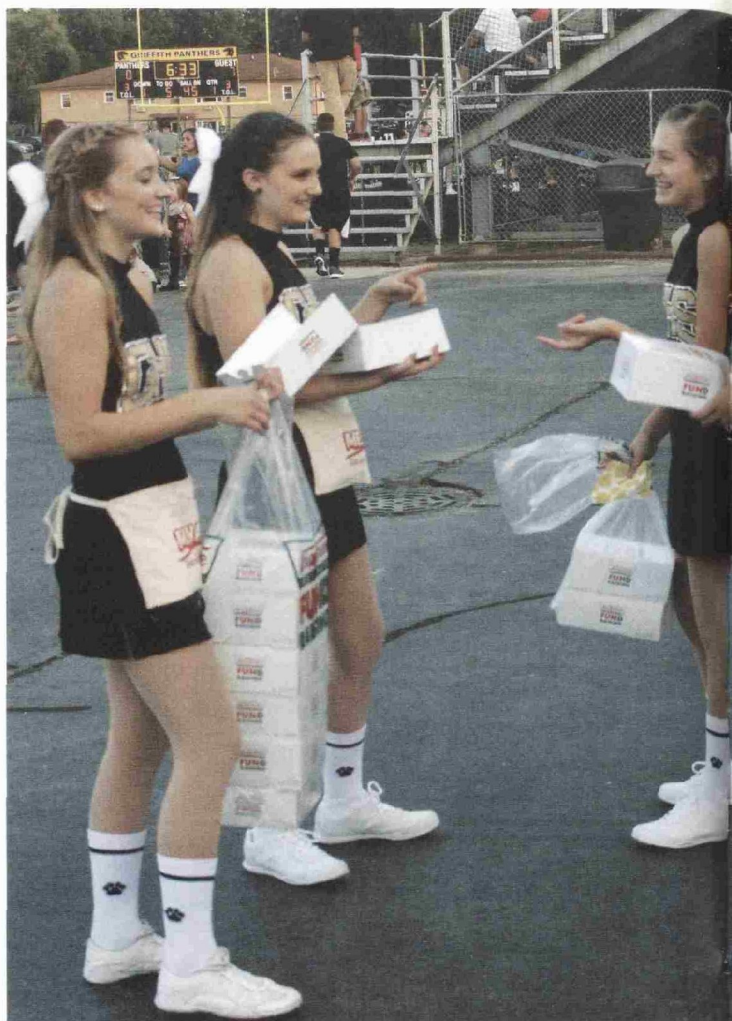
Reta Haddad, 10



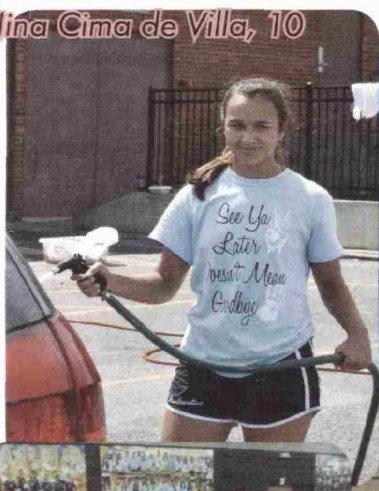
Renee Mierzwa, 12 & Lauren Atkinson, 10

Interacting with a student, sophomore Avery Seberger and junior Allison Biancardi sell raffle tickets. "I liked how I got to see many of my school friends outside of school at the games," said Biancardi.

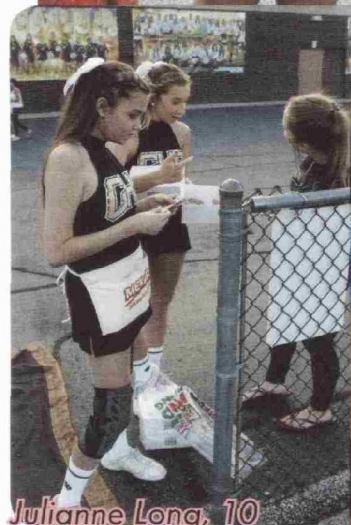
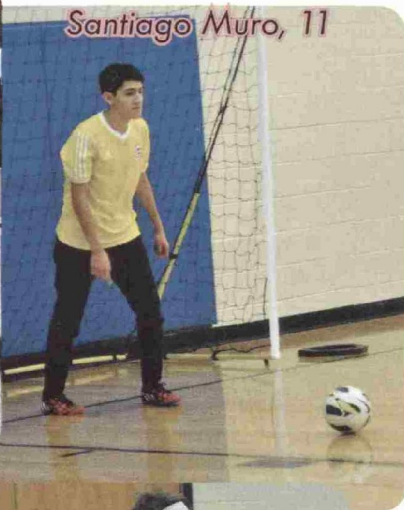
The Pantherettes have a laugh before they go and sell donuts to the roaring Panther crowd, "Selling donuts with my teammates was nothing but eventful," said sophomore Brooke Russel.



Nina Cima de Villa, 10



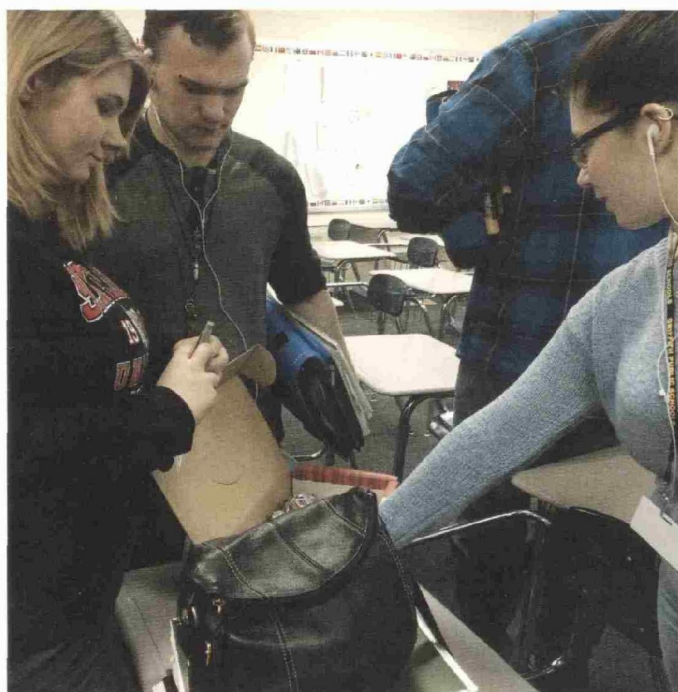
Santiago Muro, 11



Julianne Long, 10



Shawn Falstrom, 11



As two members from DECA raise money for their club, sophomore Mackenzie Olsen buys candy, "It's cool that I can support a club and get to eat candy in my classes," said Olsen.

FUNDRAISING

by: Jake Collins

Fundraising is very important when it comes to getting money for the season of any sport. There were many different types of fundraisers that took place for Griffith clubs and sports. For example, the Pantherettes sold Krispy Kreme donuts at most of the football games that were played at home. "Selling the donuts with my teammates was my favorite because being with them is always a great time and the money we earned helped with our season," said senior Renee Mierzwa. The Pantherettes also hosted a car wash at the YMCA parking lot to raise extra money to help the team, "Washing the cars with the team was an event that I looked forward to, and it was nice to help other people out by washing their cars," said sophomore Dynahstee Moore.

Fundraising for many sports is typically done during the season, but the Griffith bowling team raised money for the team all year. In the summer, the bowlers held a summer camp at Set 'Em Up Lanes to teach younger kids the fundamentals of bowling. The team also started a 50/50 raffle every Thursday at Set 'Em Up with league

bowlers. The money that was raised went to the team for new uniforms, and the money also helped pay for the tournaments that the bowlers competed in. "It is nice that we get to raise our own money as a team because we are not supported by the school, so all of the money in the program is made by the team with all of the different events we hold," said junior Kylie Maloney.

"Washing cars with the team was an event I looked forward to and it was nice to help other people out by washing their cars," Dynahstee Moore.

Ms. Diekelmann's special education class also joined in on the fundraising events. They offered coffee to every teacher or staff member in the building for a charge of \$1. The coffee would be delivered by some of the students during the school day.

50/50 raffles are not the only way to raise money for a season here at GHS, for example, the girls soccer team hosted an event at Potbelly's restaurant. For every customer that bought a certain sandwich, 25 percent of the money from that purchase went to the soccer team to help raise money for the girls. "The posters that we used to show to the cars driving by were designed at my house, and making the posters was a great way to bond with the team," said freshman Emily Keck.



Showing posters to a busy street, the Lady Panthers soccer team try and get supporters. "It was a nice way to bond with the team showing the posters we made," said sophomore Aary Cano.

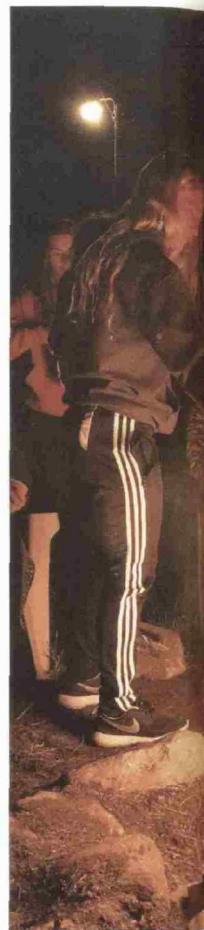
Talking to a parent of a Griffith football player, senior Raquel Renton sells raffle tickets. "It was nice going to all the people because I made a lot of new friends selling tickets," said Renton.



TIME OF YOUR LIFE

by: Haley Dixon

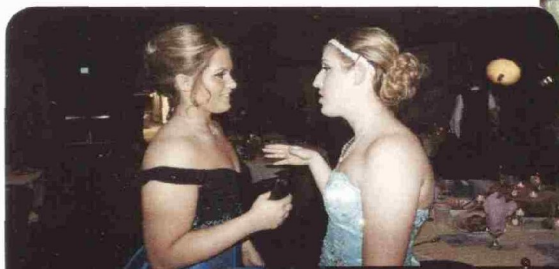
Happily holding onto his date, junior Mark Whitlock had the time of his life. "Dancing with my date Alexis was great and I wouldn't have wanted to spend my night with anyone else," said Whitlock.



Alyssa Skertich, 12



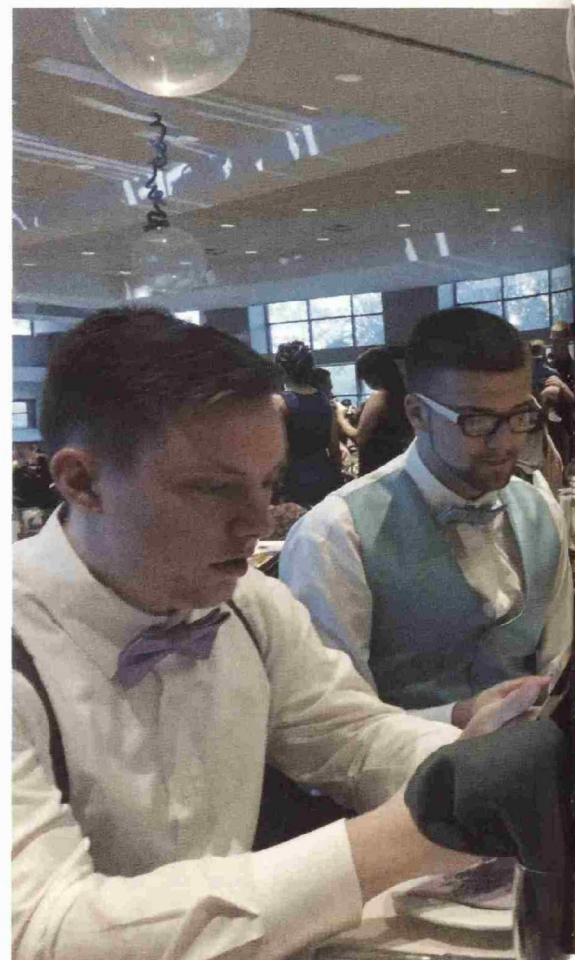
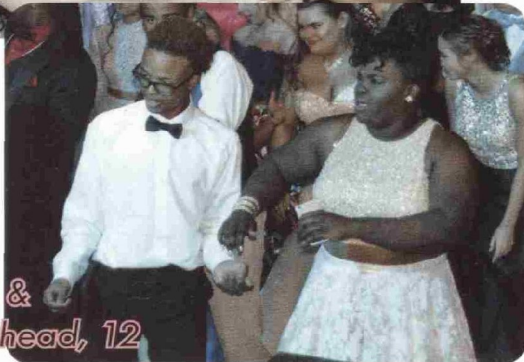
Sabrina Dodson, 12
& Kasey Tinsley, 12



Jolie Dunn, 11 &
Leslie Leon, 11



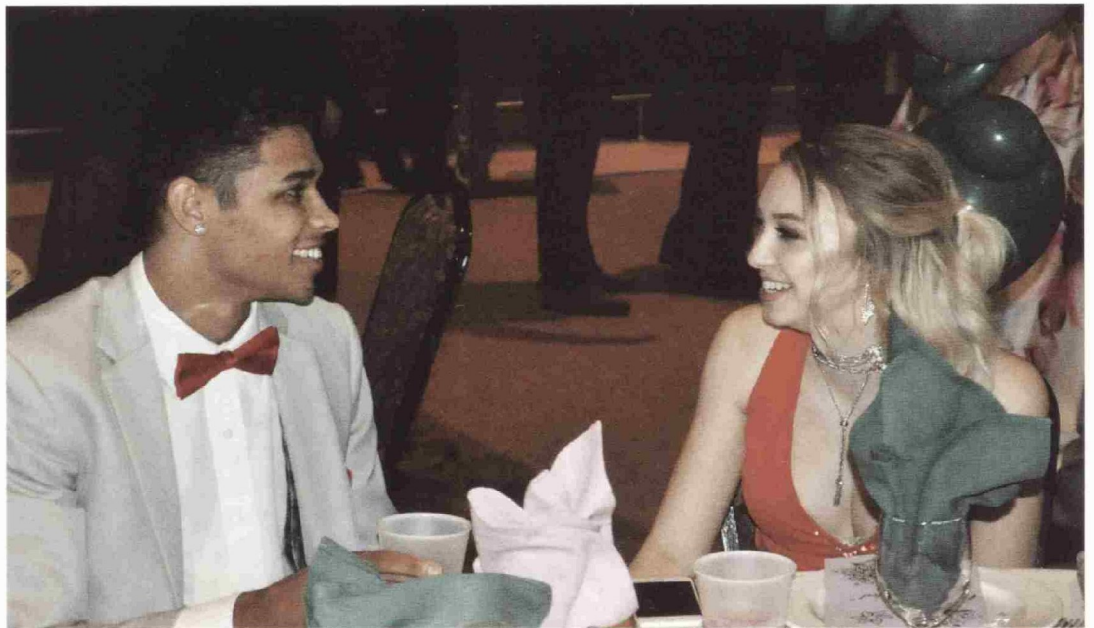
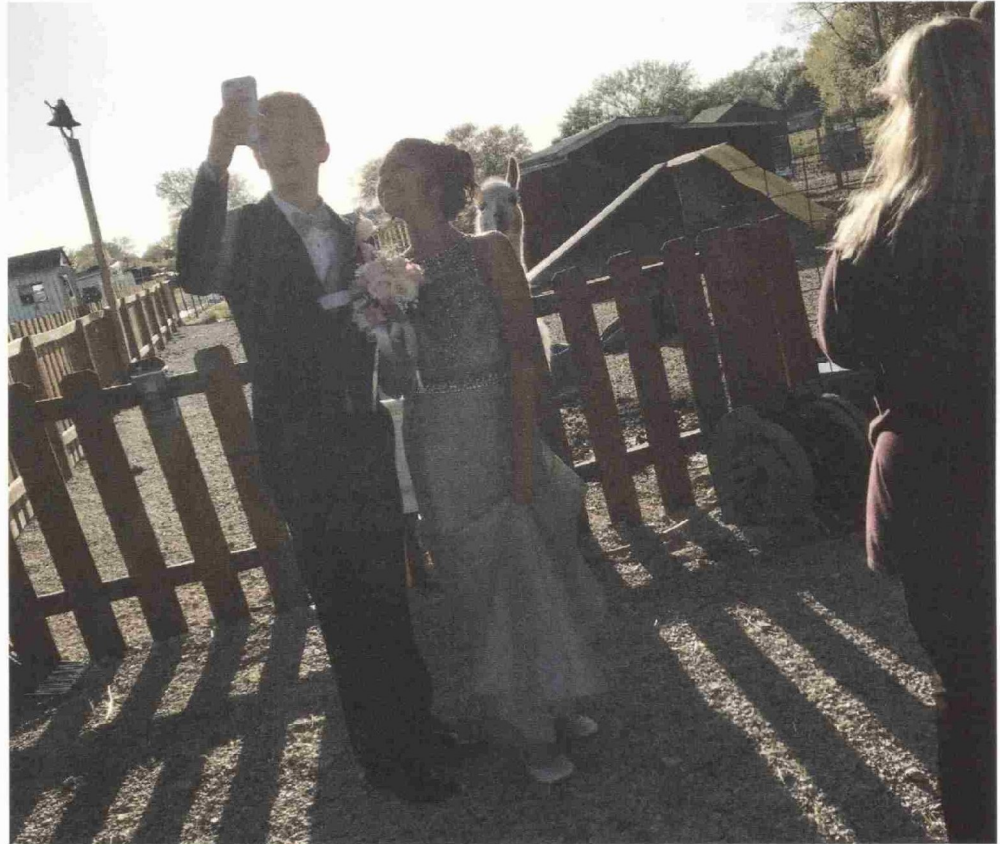
Kayla Piper, 12 &
Raejon Whitehead, 12





During prom weekend, senior Megan Miller roasting s'mores over the campfire while enjoying her time at Monticello with some of her peers.

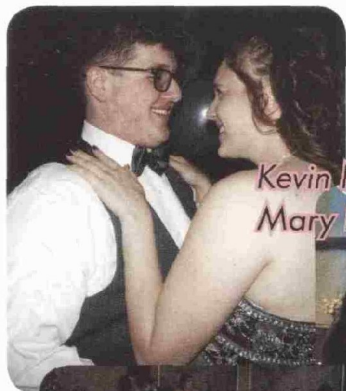
At Scheeringa's farm, senior Megan Madrigal takes her prom pictures. "Although it was my last prom, I have to say that it was the best one I have had yet," said Madrigal.



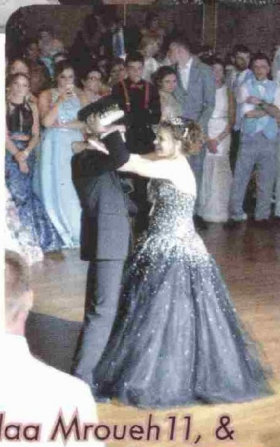
At her table with her date, freshman Olivia Halley was at her first prom. "It was a great experience to be with all the upperclassmen and talk to people you wouldn't normally talk to," said Halley.

Talking to her date, senior Maxine Carroll attends her last prom. "It was amazing and I loved the environment, but it was also depressing since it was my last prom," said Carroll.

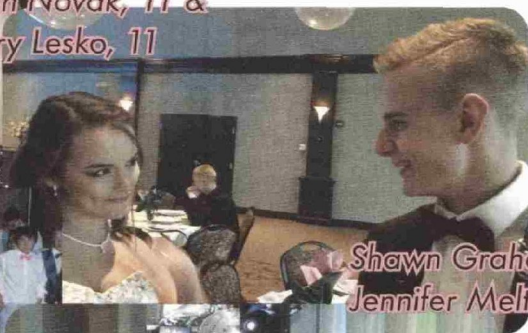
Enjoying his time at the dance, junior Kyle Sutton is dancing in the middle of the crowd. "Prom was a great time! The music was great and there was always good vibes. It was pretty cool to get dressed up too," said Sutton.



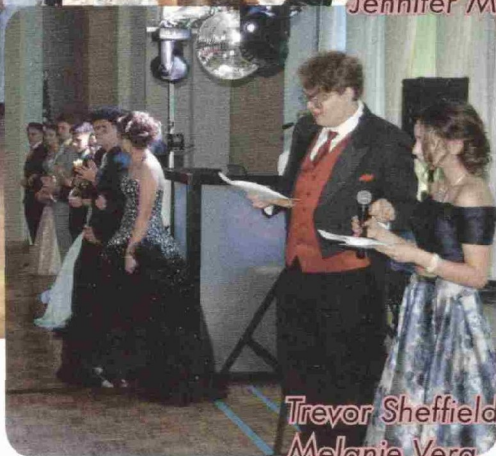
*Kevin Novak, 11 &
Mary Lesko, 11*



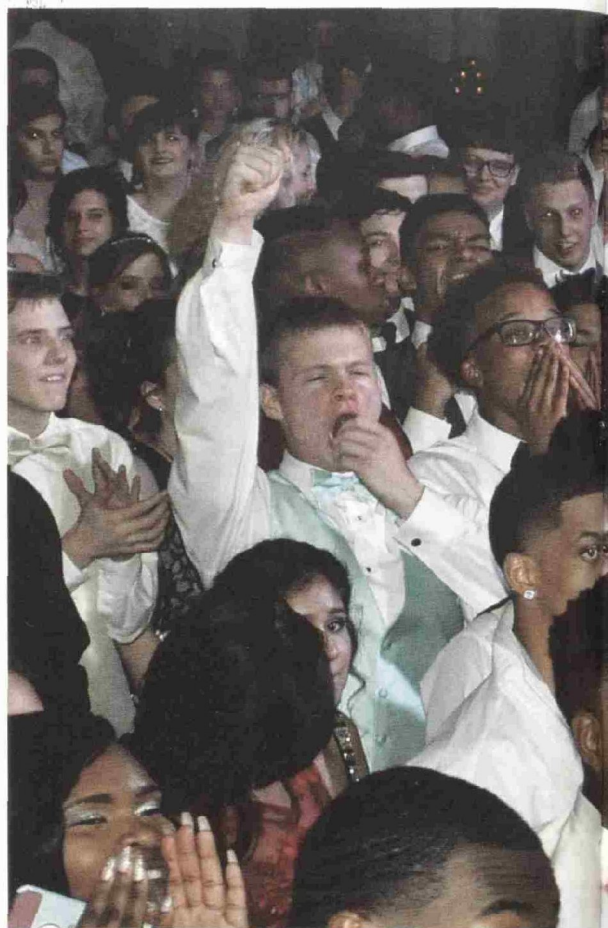
*Alaa Mrueh, 11, &
Ali Schoon, 11*



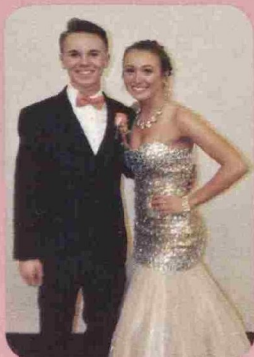
*Shawn Graham, 11
Jennifer Melion, 12*



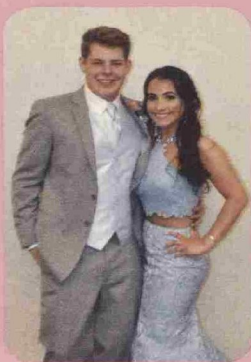
*Trevor Sheffield, 12 &
Melanie Vera, 12*



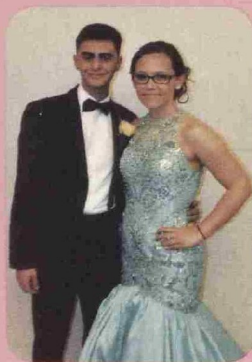
Prom Court



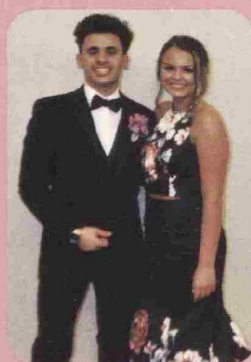
*Cameron Bobos &
Trinity Austin*



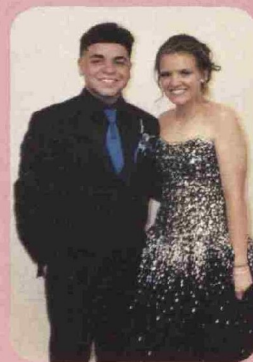
*Shawn Falstrom &
Merry Galindo*



*Shadi Haddad &
Tatum Josephson*



*Alaa Mrueh &
Kacie Kruhaj*



*Christian Rivera &
Ali Schoon*

@ TIME OF ENCHANTMENT

by: Evan Queen & Damian Villapando

On May 5, Griffith High School hosted its 2017 junior prom, that showcased the theme "Enchanted," at the Halls of St. George in Schererville. At around 10pm, Alaa Mroueh and Ali Schoon were elected as Prom King and Queen. The King and Queen shared a dance to the song "So Close," by Jon McLaughlin from the *Enchanted* soundtrack.

"I was quite surprised to be elected prom queen, and receiving the crown made it my favorite high school memory. The dance itself was a fantastic time and the food was great. It was nice to see everything come together because as junior class council president, I know it was loads of work to plan and get the decorations made and set up. The whole night turned out to be absolutely perfect," said Schoon.

The doors opened at 6:30pm for picture hour, which lasted until 8pm, followed by dinner starting shortly after. The menu for the night included baked chicken and mostaccioli as the main entree, with corn and mashed potatoes with gravy for sides, as well as salad and bread for appetizers. Students had access to a soda bar all night where they could order water, soda, and kiddie

cocktails. The dance then lasted until midnight.

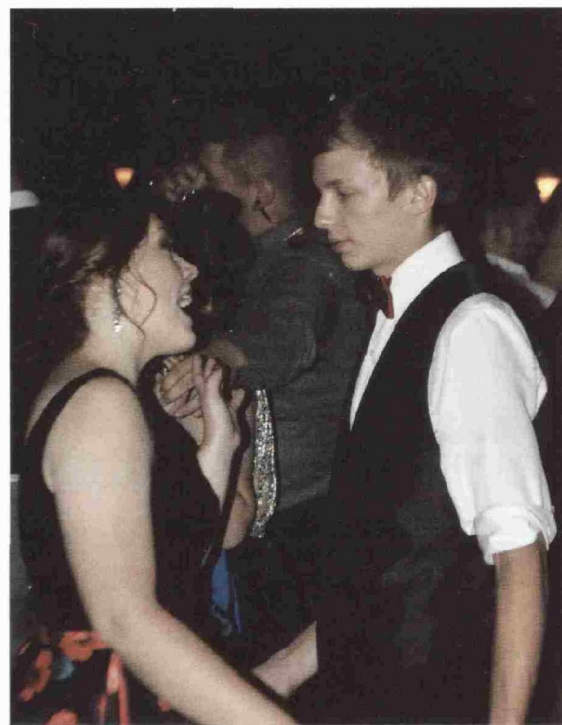
The DJ received popular feedback from the students. He played top hits of today including: "I Spy," by Kyle, and "That's What I Like," by Bruno Mars, but also featuring "traditional" dance songs such as "Cotton Eyed Joe," "The Cha Cha Slide," and "Pursuit of Happiness." He also included various slow

songs such as "When You Look Me in the Eyes" by the Jonas Brothers.

Students were quite active both on the dance floor and on the stage. "Beforehand, we relaxed and got ready for the night. We didn't really do too much other than just kind of hang out and listen to music to get excited for the dance later on. Afterwards we tried to go to three separate places: Jedi's Garden, Buffalo

Wild Wings, and Applebee's but they were all closed or full so we had to powow at someone's house for a movie night. The actual dance was a great time; I never sat down other than for dinner. My favorite part of the entire meal was the chicken," said junior Christopher Mares.

"I was quite surprised to be elected Prom Queen, and receiving the crown made it my favorite high school memory," said Junior Ali Schoon.



All of the those attending prom hit the dance floor to dance "The Cha Cha Slide," a traditional dance song by Mr. C, the Slide Man. The song makes an appearance at all the school dances, and always manages to get people moving.

"The dance was a memorable time; I also enjoyed the music and the food. Afterwards, we went out to eat at Buffalo Wild Wings," said senior Chase Janowski just after slow dancing with his date from another school.

SECONDS LEFT

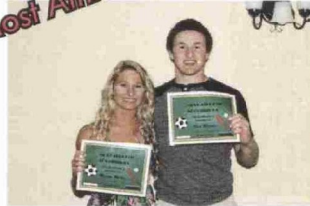
by: Kylee Taylor

Best Dressed



Isaiah Ramirez & Abbey Dobosz

Most Athletic



Josh Miller & Megan Miller

Best Eyes



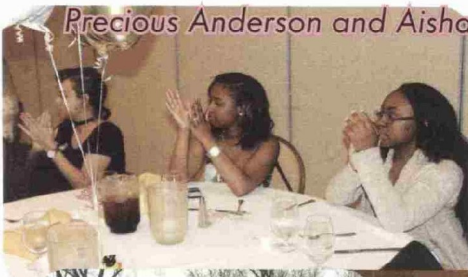
Alec Seberger & Rachel Kruhaj

Best Hair



Zachary Hilgeman & Karol Ames

Pracious Anderson and Aisha Faulkner, 12

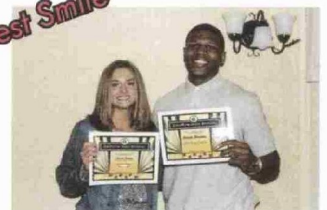


Class Clown



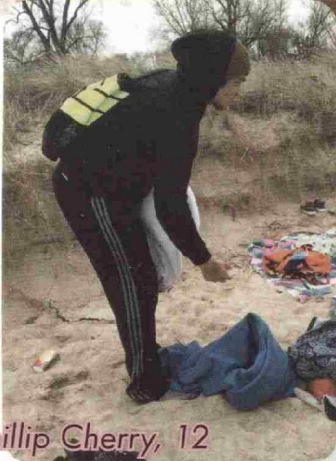
Tray Boone & Dana Jelenski

Best Smile



Cornell Hampton & Breanna Hamilton

Phillip Cherry, 12



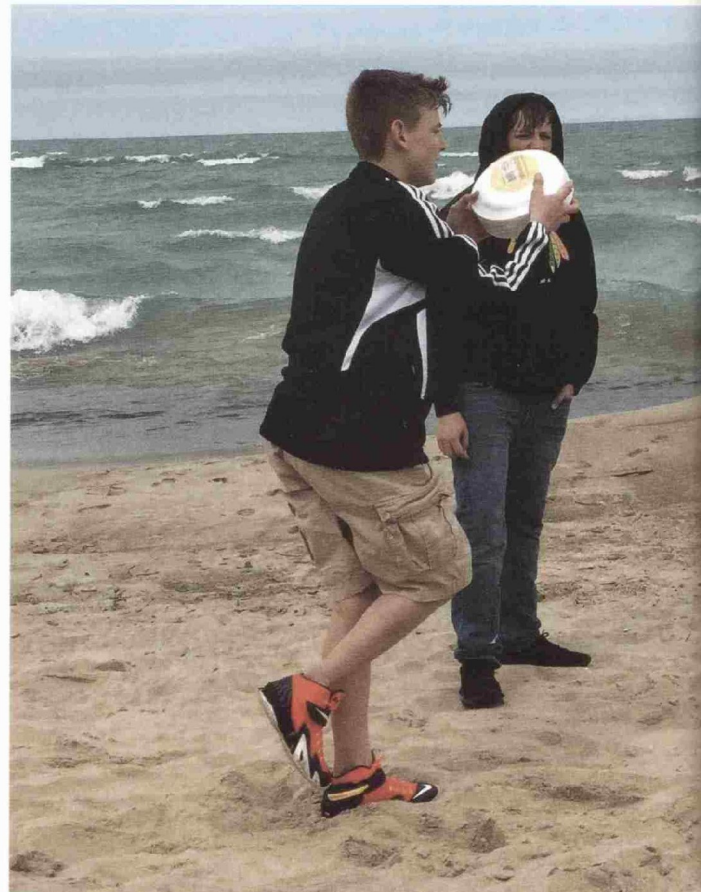
Elias Caraballo, 12 and Kaylyn Perez, 11



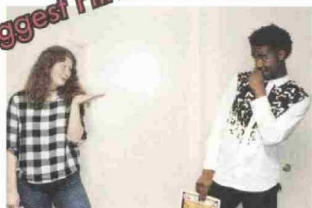
Senior Class Cavemen



During Senior Ditch Day, on April 21, 2017, senior Jacob Rothchild throws a package of paper plates. "I don't know why we were throwing paper plates, but my favorite part of ditch day was going to the beach," said Rothchild

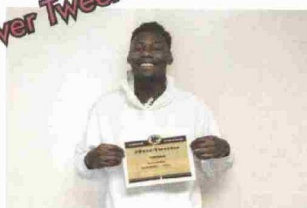


Biggest Flirt



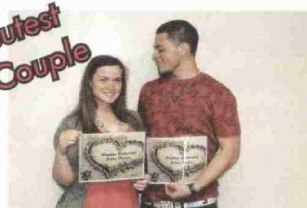
Isaiah Allen &
Dara Meece

Over Tweeter



Torin Dillon &
Alyssa Schreiber

Cutest Couple



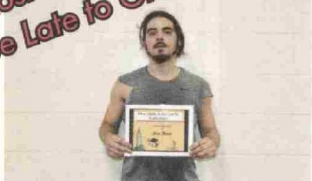
Julien Herrera &
Brooklyn Richardson

Cutest Couple That Never Was



Matt McInerney &
Megan Miller

Most Likely to be Late to Graduation



Josh Fowle &
Natalie Halley

Teachers Pet



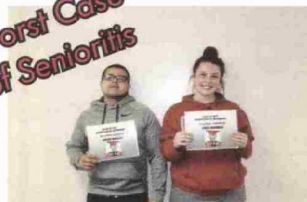
Sean Bailey &
Bridget Beck

Most Sarcastic



Denny Colomes &
Michelle Beck

Worst Case of Senioritis



Diego Burgos &
Erin Escorza

Worst Driver



Adam Kent &
Max Carroll

Most Changed



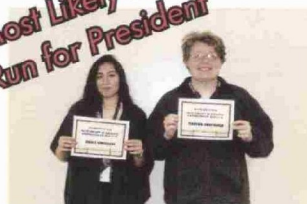
Phillip Cherry &
Renee Mierzwa

Funniest Laugh



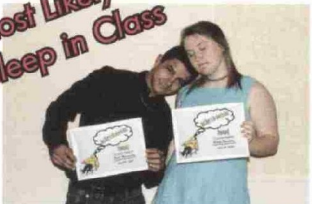
Al Ervin &
Monet Mitchell

Most Likely to Run for President



Trevor Sheffield & Em-
ily Gonzales

Most Likely to Sleep in Class



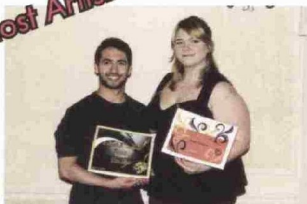
Keith Hernandez &
Emily Pawlicki

Most Likely to Brighten Your Day



Zack Keil &
Leanna Early

Most Artistic



Eyan Queen &
Kayla Schramm

Most Competitive



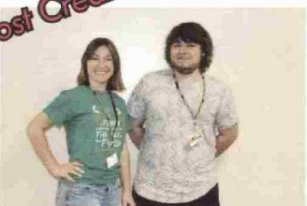
Jeremiah Reitz &
Kayla Piper

Most Likely to Never Leave Griffith



Lonnie Chabes &
Alecia Albanese

Most Creative



Allen Huff &
Sylvie Dowd

Bromance

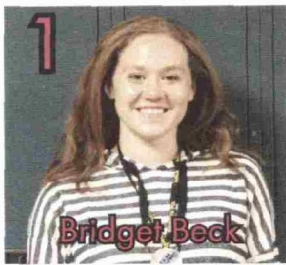


Matt McInerney &
Joey Martoccio

Besties



Megan Miller &
Breanna Hamilton



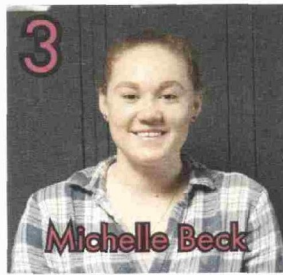
1
Bridget Beck

"I am happy where I am at. I am going to Purdue West Lafayette to major in science. I advise that if you want to be in Top Ten, challenge yourself with tough classes without going overboard."

"I worked hard to be where I am at. I kept up with my grades. If I didn't, I wouldn't be here. I want to attend Indiana University Bloomington and major in human biology and become a surgeon."



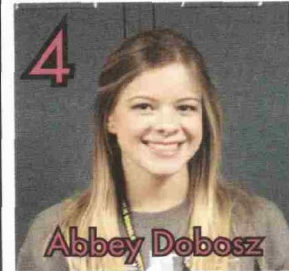
2
Dara Meece



3
Michelle Beck

"I'm not surprised that I'm in Top Ten. I've been in it since freshmen year. I want to major in biology or chemistry at Indiana University Bloomington."

"I want to do something within the business field. I've wanted to since elementary school. I know I have worked hard to make it here. I plan to attend IU Bloomington."



4
Abbey Dobosz



5
Carson Grin

"I got into Top Ten by working hard. I have always been in it, and I'm proud of myself. I want to go to Purdue Lafayette, and major in computer science. My advice is to pay attention and do your homework."

SCHOLARLY STUDENTS

by: Ryan Jelenski

The Top Ten consist of the students with the highest GPA (grade point average) in the senior class. The National Honor Society holds a Top Ten Dinner that rewards the students at the end of the year by celebrating their achievements. On Wednesday, May 10th, at 6:30 p.m. the dinner was held at Jedi's Garden. Students were able to choose a favorite teacher or mentor to bring with to the dinner.

"I chose Mr. Franzen, my 6th grade teacher, because I liked how he shaped the way of education, and he always pushed me to my full potential," said senior Abbey Dobosz.

At the dinner, there was a powerpoint of all the students which had pictures of each student from when they were 3 to 5 years old, their middle school years, and their final high school days.

"My favorite part of being in the Top Ten is that all of my friends are in it", said senior Michelle Beck.

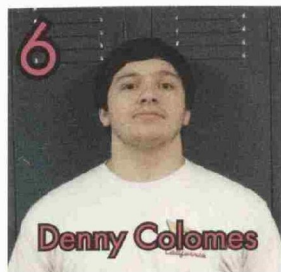
Dinner was served around 7:30 p.m. After dinner, the students, as well as their mentors, received plaques from Sarah Cohen and Cindy Leber, the NHS sponsors. The students' plaques had their names and their class rank on it. The mentor plaques were presented to mentors for recognition of "Excellence in Education."

After all the students were recognized, pictures with individuals were taken as well as a group photo consisting of all ten members.

"My favorite part of the dinner was talking to my mom and Mrs. Pramuk. We had a good conversation during dinner which made it very enjoyable for me," said senior Denny Colomes. At the dinner everybody had a great time talking to one another and just had an exciting time celebrating this achievement.

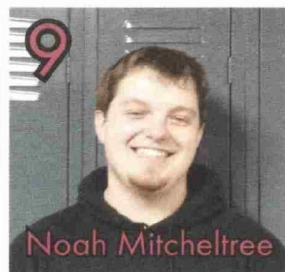
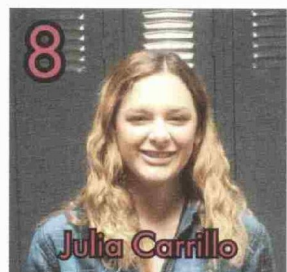


"I wasn't the smartest kid, but I worked hard and focused on my grades. I want to go to Rose Hulman and major in computer software engineering. I like it because it's creative and new."



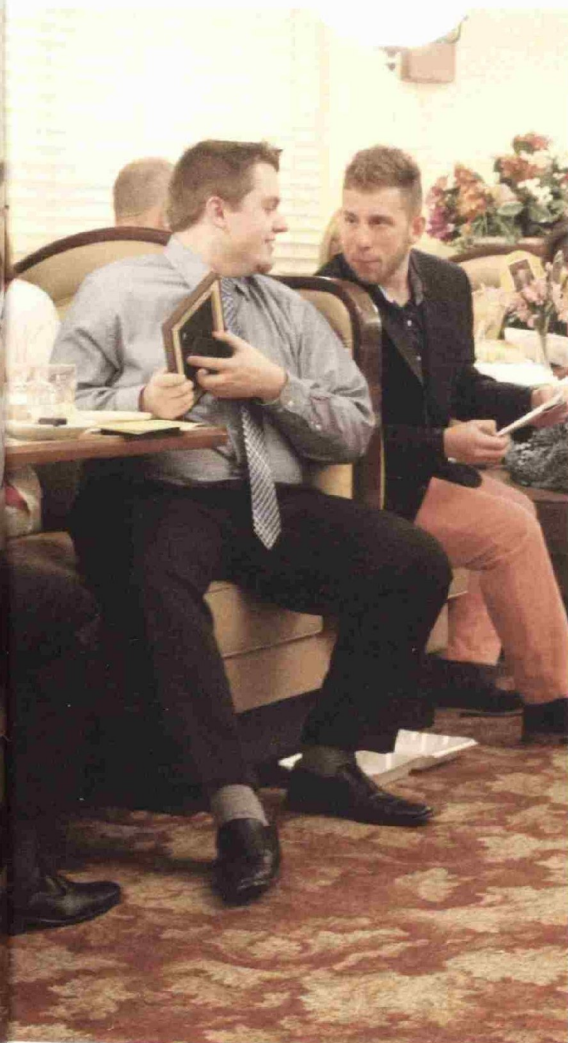
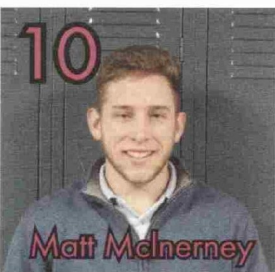
"My determination helped me to be where I am at in the Top Ten. My parents pushed me and told me that homework always comes first. Sports also helped me maintain my grades. I am attending Ball State."

"I want to major in engineering at Purdue Lafayette, because I am good at math and science. I did my homework and studied hard to get where I am at."

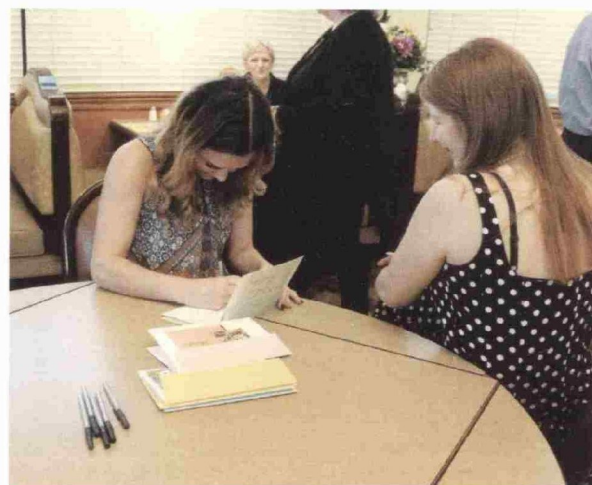


"I focused on my grades, but the classes I were in really helped me get here. I want to earn a lot of money as an engineer and go to Purdue to major in engineering."

"I'm going to attend IU Bloomington. I want to major in business because it's interesting to me; however, I do wish I was higher because I am way smarter."



After receiving their plaques, seniors Matthew McInerney and Noah Mitcheltree discuss their future plans. "Once we build the windmills, the sky is the limit," said McInerney.

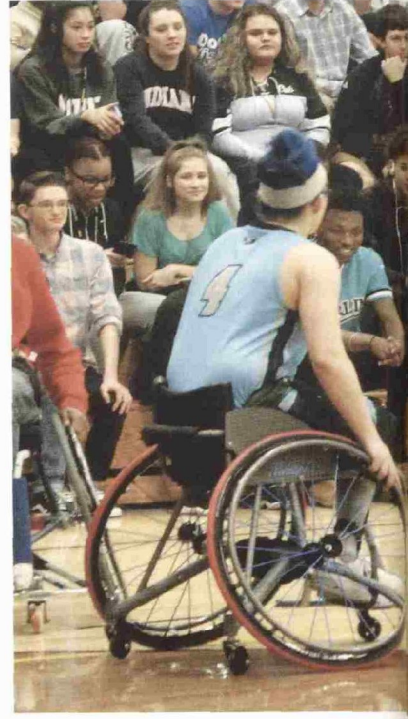


At Jedi's, seniors Julia Carrillo and Dara Meece sign thank you cards to the top 10 sponsors. "We wanted to thank them for helping out with the dinner," said Carrillo.

The ten smiling seniors grouped together to take their last photo of the night. "I like that we all get along with one another and are good friends," said Lilyana Salazar.

Going in for the shot, senior Kaelyn Price works to make points for her team. "I enjoyed playing with my teammates again even though it was harder because of the wheelchairs," said Price.

After getting the ball, senior Amere Williams looks for a teammate to pass the ball to. "It was more difficult to play in a wheelchair, but I still helped to put points on the board," said Williams.



Being very careful, senior Tatyana Cima De Villa shaves English teacher Carl Dunlap's head for St. Baldrick's. "It was exciting to show my work in front of the school for a good cause," said Cima De Villa.



As she goes in for the tip off, junior Sierra Slaven tries to get the ball to her team. "Doing the tip off felt weird because I'm considered too short in a regular game," said Slaven.



Pantherettes



Tray Boone, 12

Kayla Piper, 12



Cheerleaders



WHEELING AROUND

by: Vanessa Bullion

On Friday, April 7th, Griffith High School hosted the annual wheelchair basketball game. Every year for disability awareness month, the game has taken place. Formerly known as Fire, the Lincolnway Special Recreation Association wheelchair basketball team comes to compete against Griffith staff and students. "It was good to see all of the competition between the students and staff and the wheelchair basketball team," said health teacher Mike Brown.

For the first quarter of the game, the girls' varsity basketball team took on the Lincolnway team. In the second quarter Lincolnway faced the boys' varsity basketball team. In the third quarter Lincolnway played the middle school girls' basketball team. Finally, in the last quarter, Lincolnway played some of the staff at Griffith. "It was very difficult playing in a wheelchair, so that made me gain respect for people who have to deal with that daily," said senior Torin Dillon.

During the game, cheerleaders would cheer on the sidelines to keep the team focused. Also, after the first quarter they performed a cheer that included a stunt, and they

even performed a hip hop performance. "It was amazing to see all of the students and staff having a good time and getting pumped up when we cheered," said freshman Ashley Timm.

"It was amazing to see all of the students and staff having a good time and getting pumped up when we cheered," said freshman Ashley Timm.

During half-time the Pantherettes performed to the song "Congratulations." "It felt good to perform in front of the whole school. Not everyone goes to basketball and football games and this time we actually got to perform in front of everyone," said sophomore Lauren Atkinson.

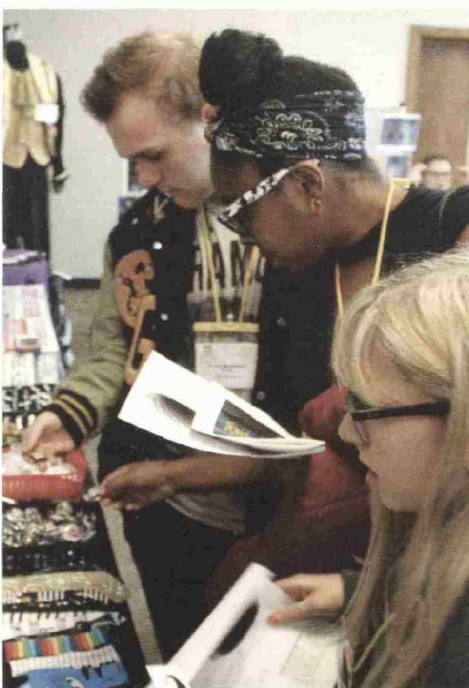
After the Pantherettes' performance, senior Tatyana Cima De Villa shaved English teacher Carl Dunlap's hair to support St. Baldrick's. The St. Baldrick's Foundation helps to find a cure for children fighting cancer. "I was nervous because I was unsure of how my hair was going to turn out, but it felt good to shave my head because I knew I was doing it for a good cause," said Dunlap.

In honor of disability awareness month, everyone who purchased a blue "Don't dis my ability" t-shirt wore their shirts to show awareness.

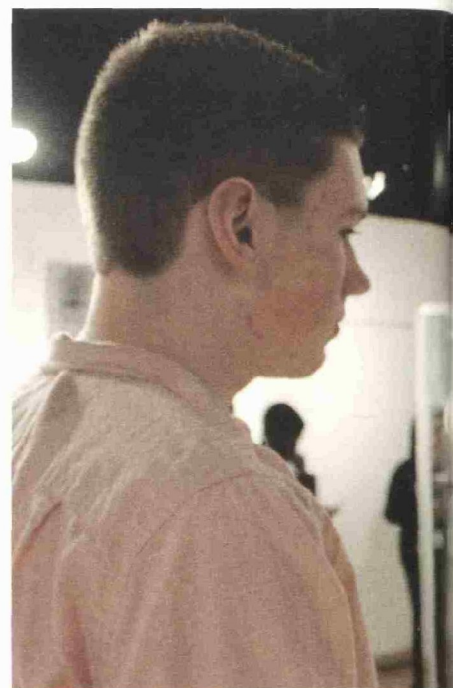
The Purdue field trip helped sophomore Kamryn Pulliam understand what went on during the Segregation Era. "It was interesting to hear what people went through during that time period," said Pulliam.



In January, juniors Amari Harris, Collin Meadows, and sophomore Emma Loomis looked at jewelry and bought T-shirts at a booth during their field trip. "Behind the booth, there was someone selling shirts to us," said Loomis.



During the Art field trip on February 24, junior Benjamin Jacobs admires a piece of work by another student. "If I had the chance, I would go again because it was interesting to see what other people put together," said Jacobs.



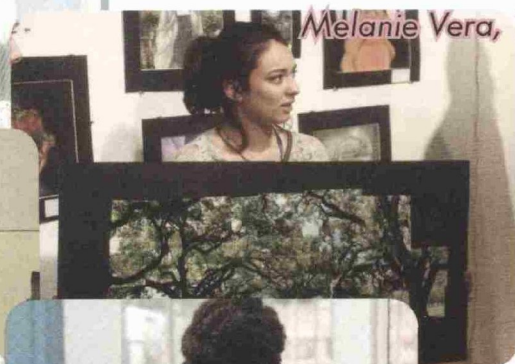
At Drama State, junior Max McLean competed in a tech challenge with other schools. "It was a great experience. I got to spend time with my friends and learn new things," said McLean.



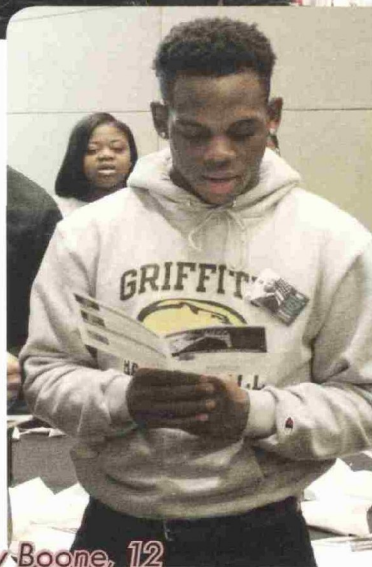
Junior Kacie Kruhaj and other students attended the Romeo and Juliet play at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. "The play took place in a courtyard, so the actors didn't need microphones for us to hear them. It felt like we were in the play," said Kruhaj.



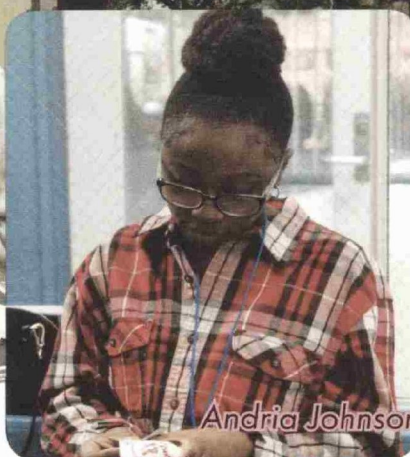
Myles Taylor, 10



Melanie Vera, 12



Tray Boone, 12



Andria Johnson, 9



A WAY FROM THESE WALLS

by: Briah Strezo

On February 16, Spanish I students went on a field trip to the Spanish College and Career Fair in Chicago. Special guests Ernie G. and Miss U.S. Latina attended the conference and spoke to the students about how they could do anything they put their minds to.

"During the field trip we learned about how life plans should be made before hand, such as picking the right college. The speakers taught me that it is possible to be anything I wanted, no matter what anyone else thinks," said sophomore Ariel Spore. After the speakers, the students attended the college fair, visiting many of the booths there.

FCCLA members went on a field trip to Highland Nursing and Rehab Center in mid-October. The members participating in the trip gave the nursing home residents company and passed out candy before the upcoming holiday, Halloween.

"During the field trip, we gave out candy to the elderly, and played Bingo with them. It was a unique experience that taught me to be patient and welcoming to everyone who needs someone to talk to," said freshman

Kayla Slachta.

After the students finished up at the nursing home, they took a quick trip to Panda Express for lunch.

Chosen athletes from different schools gathered at Lowell high school for the Athletic Leadership Conference. One student from each sport was picked by athletic director, Stacy Adams and Shannon Scheidel, to participate in the field trip on November 16.

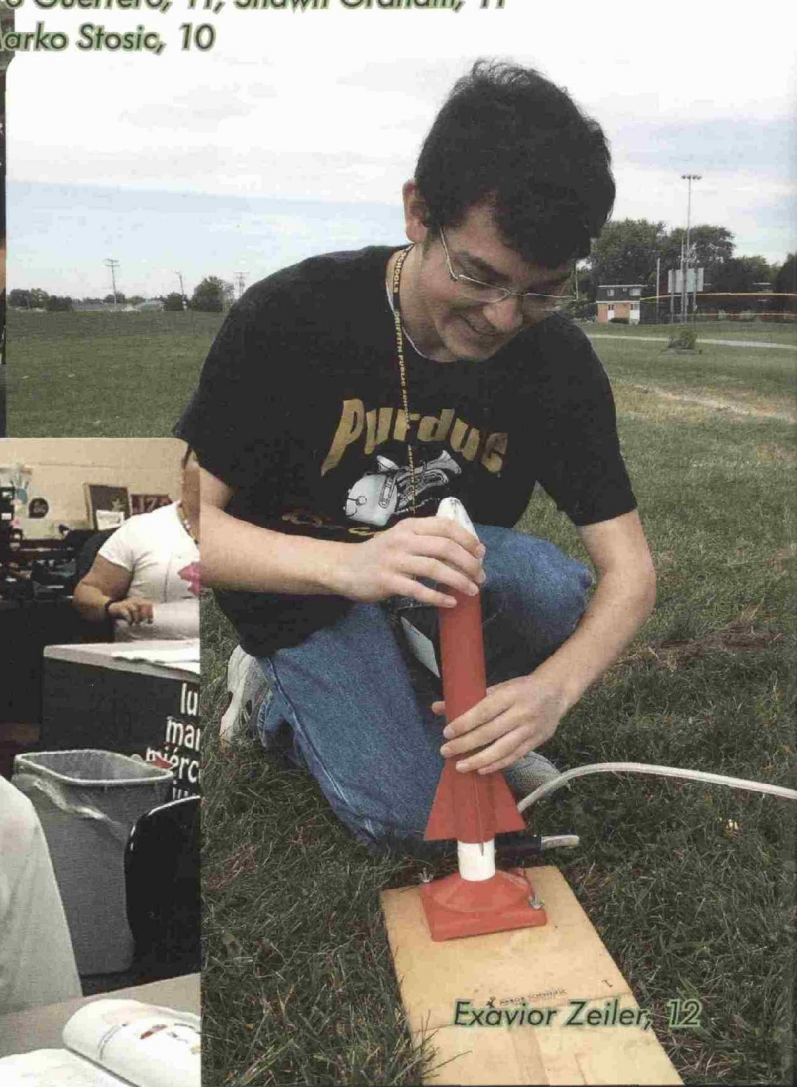
"We worked with other athletes from many different schools. The conference taught me how to be a team player and a great leader," said sophomore Paige Zoran.

During the conference, the students exchanged shirts and played many games where they learned to work together as a team. Many of the games were tough, and they really had to listen to each other to get a victory.

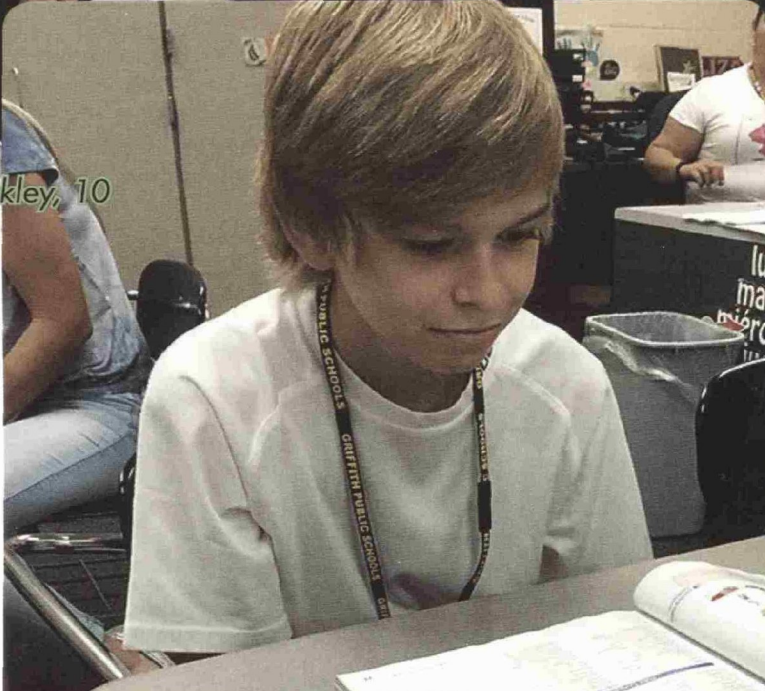
"The conference taught us better ways to lead our teams, such as communicating, listening, and respecting the people who may object to our ideas," said Zoran.

"The speakers taught me that it is possible to be anything I wanted, no matter what anyone else thinks," said sophomore Ariel Spore.

Pedro Guerrero, 11, Shawn Graham, 11
& Marko Stosic, 10

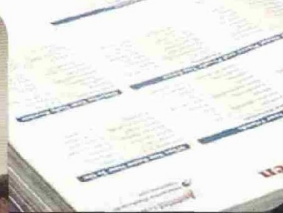
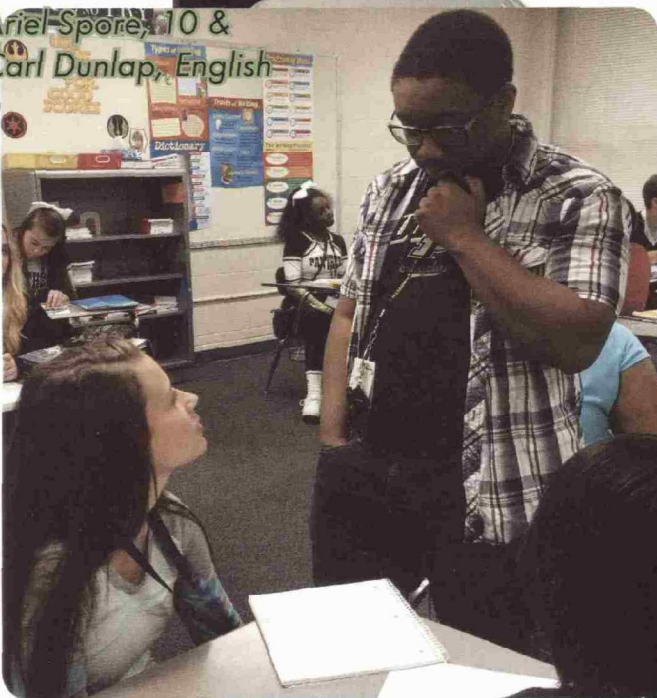


Anthony Berkley, 10

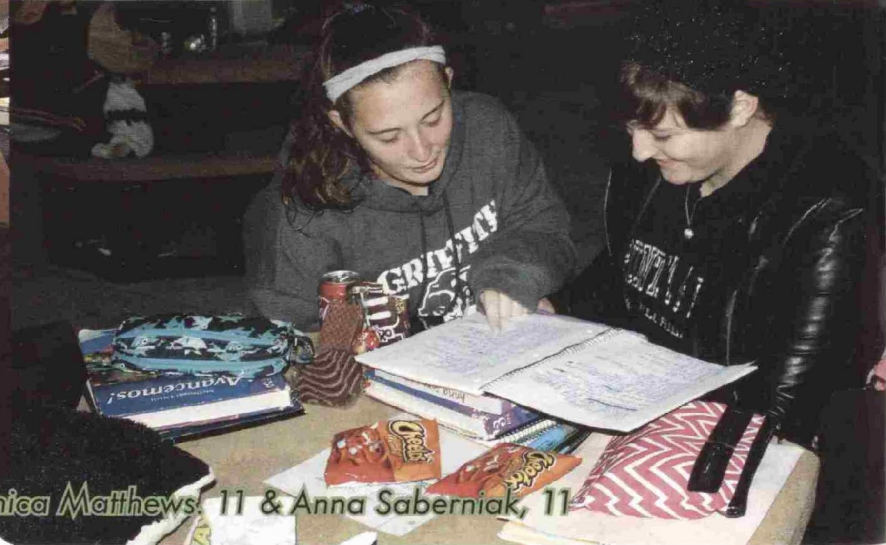


Exavier Zeiler, 12

Ariel Spore, 10 &
Carl Dunlap, English



Veronica Matthews, 11 & Anna Saberniak, 11



TIME FOR GRADES

by: Taylor Grady

Returning to school for a brand new year means new classes. Many upperclassmen have AP or honors classes on top of sports, clubs, and jobs, which can become overwhelming to balance all at once.

Students that have the same classes form student groups, so they can help each other with homework that they may have trouble on. Many students went to McDonalds or Dairy Queen to study for upcoming quizzes and tests or to do the endless amount of homework.

"I'm in four AP classes, and I get dual credit for all of them. I have a huge amount of homework and it takes me a long time to get everything done. I try to do a lot of my work at school, but sometimes I'm up all night. AP Psychology gets about 90 note cards a month, so I spent a lot of time on them. I make sure I get everything done because I want to get into a good college," said junior Daniel Welch.

Student athletes have to juggle practices and games with their academics. They have to learn how to manage their time wisely with all their classes and sports. With all the homework, students often pull "all-nighters" to finish their homework, so they won't fall behind. There are many student athletes that are also in AP classes. AP students had a heavy work load that included vocabulary cards and doodles that helped them prepare for the challenging tests.

Besides the lectures from teachers, labs were enjoyable and "spiced" things up a little bit. It also helped students to learn from a different perspective while working with their hands. For instance, physics had a rocket lab where they had to calculate velocity. Labs provided a contrast to the ordinary environment in classrooms. Projects were also entertaining instead of the normal class work; however, it

was overwhelming as well. According to students, it takes more time and effort than regular homework.

For the first year, APUSH joined interior design on a field trip to Navy Pier where they went on a boat ride to explore downtown Chicago. AP Psych and AP Bio also went on a field trip to Brookfield Zoo to learn about animal behavior on November 3rd. FCCLA went on a field trip to a nursing home in Highland to give treats to them and play bingo.

"On the boat ride in Chicago, I liked the architecture of the skyscrapers such as the Willis Tower. For AP Psych, my favorite animal was the spider monkeys at Brookfield Zoo," said junior Grace Szymanski.

GHS has a wide variety of elective classes to offer that accommodate to what one may be interested in. Whether that be in the FACS department, like child development and baking, or the art department such as ceramics. Being in elective classes allows students to get a better opportunity on what they want to pursue in the future. Also, it gives them time to relax instead of being in the rigorous enriched classes.

Even though GHS offers these classes, some students are not interested in them. Therefore, they have another option which is the Hammond Career Center. It provided classes like Early Child Development, health services, etc.

"I really like how I am able to work in the field and get to have my internship while being able to work with children. On the other hand, I dislike that we have a lot of book work in order to get my CDA at the end. I have an internship that I go to Monday through Thursday where I basically work with the children and help out the teacher at Lake Ridge Head," said senior Heather Steele.

I'm in four AP classes, and I get dual credit for all of them. I have a lot of homework and it takes me a long time to get everything done. I try to do a lot of my work at school, but sometimes I'm up all night," said junior Daniel Welch.

Working on the Dia de los Muertos project in Spanish 3, sophomore Reta Haddad said, "I liked how I was able to honor my aunt with items that represent her life from birth to when she died."



In Nick Zivanovic's 3rd hour class, sophomore David O'Brien is designing games on the computer. "I enjoy using computer software to create a game called 'Journey.' I took this class because I find creating games very enjoyable," said O'Brien.



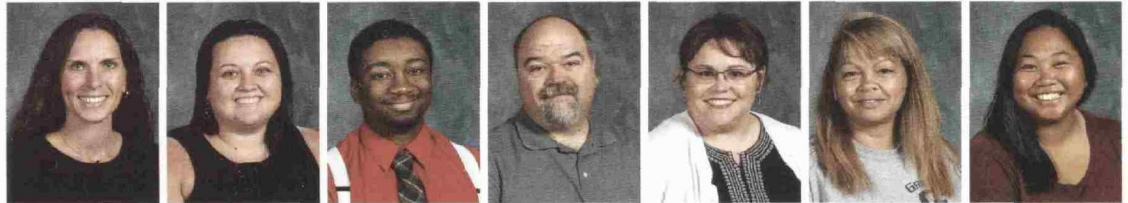
TIMELESS TEACHINGS

by: Alexia Smith

Paige Allen
Kristin Anderson
Danielle Bernie
Jenna Candiano
Rachel Chavez
Christine Chidichimo
Sara Cohen



Kristina Collard
Melissa Diekmann
Carl Dunlap
Jim Graff
Lorraine Hageman
Georgina Hernandez
Joy Ichiyama



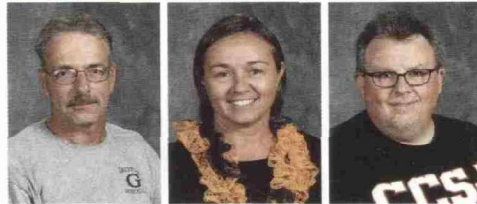
Lauren Januska
Debbie Korak
Cindy Leber
Amanda Madison
Tim McCoy
Lauren Nelson
Laura North



Sara Novak
Jim Pickett
Luann Pramuk
Margaret Rivera
Shannon Scheidel
Tim Schutter
Delincia Smith



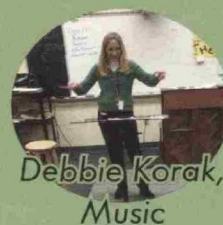
Charlie Szo
Julie Wencloff
Nick Zivanovic



Checking her email, FACS teacher Shannon Scheidel shows school spirit. "I always wear black and gold on Friday's to show my support for every sport going on," said Scheidel.



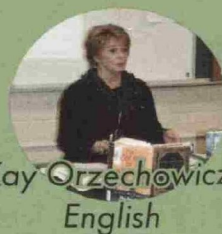
Everlasting lessons



Debbie Korak,
Music

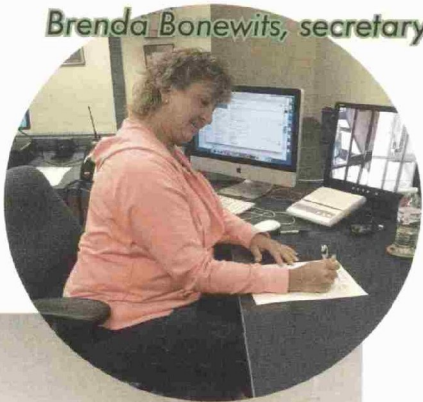
Debbie Korak, the band director for the past six years, has watched students come and go. "Watching the children develop into young adults is definitely virtuous."

Kay Orzechowicz has been a teacher for 29 years and doesn't plan on retiring any time soon. "I love being a teacher because you never know what's in store for the day."

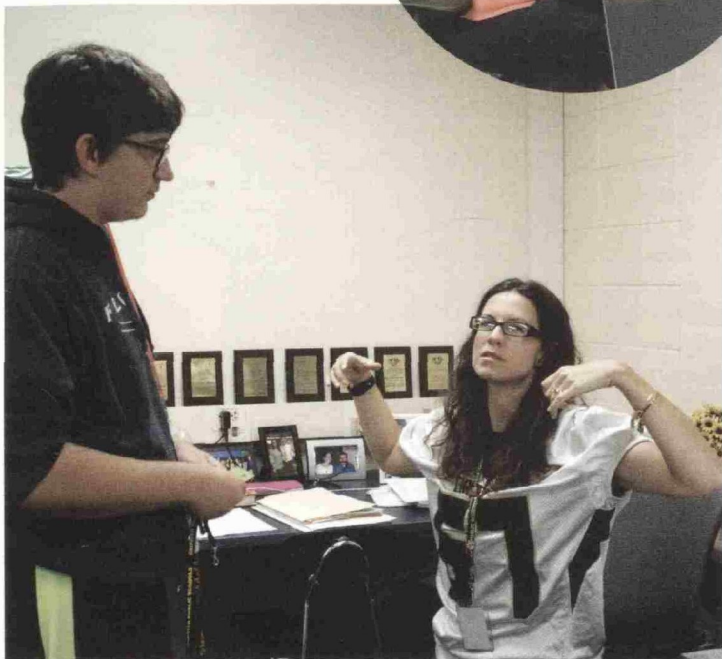


Kay Orzechowicz,
English

Brenda Bonewits, secretary



Focused, AP Calculus math teacher Christine Chidichimo explains to a student the importance of receiving good test scores. "One of my best memories at GHS, is when my student's scores surpassed the AP Calculus requirements," said Chidichimo.



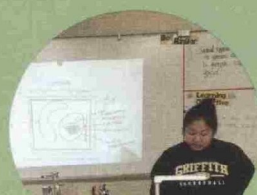
New comers



**Castillo Perez,
Spanish**

Castillo Perez is a new teacher at Griffith and teaches Spanish I and II, while also coaching the boys soccer team. "The staff and students made me feel very welcomed and comfortable in my transition."

Joy Ichiyama teaches biology and is also a first year teacher at Griffith. Ichiyama also coaches girls softball at Portage. "Although juggling both softball and being a teacher may be tough at times, seeing my students improve makes it all worth it."

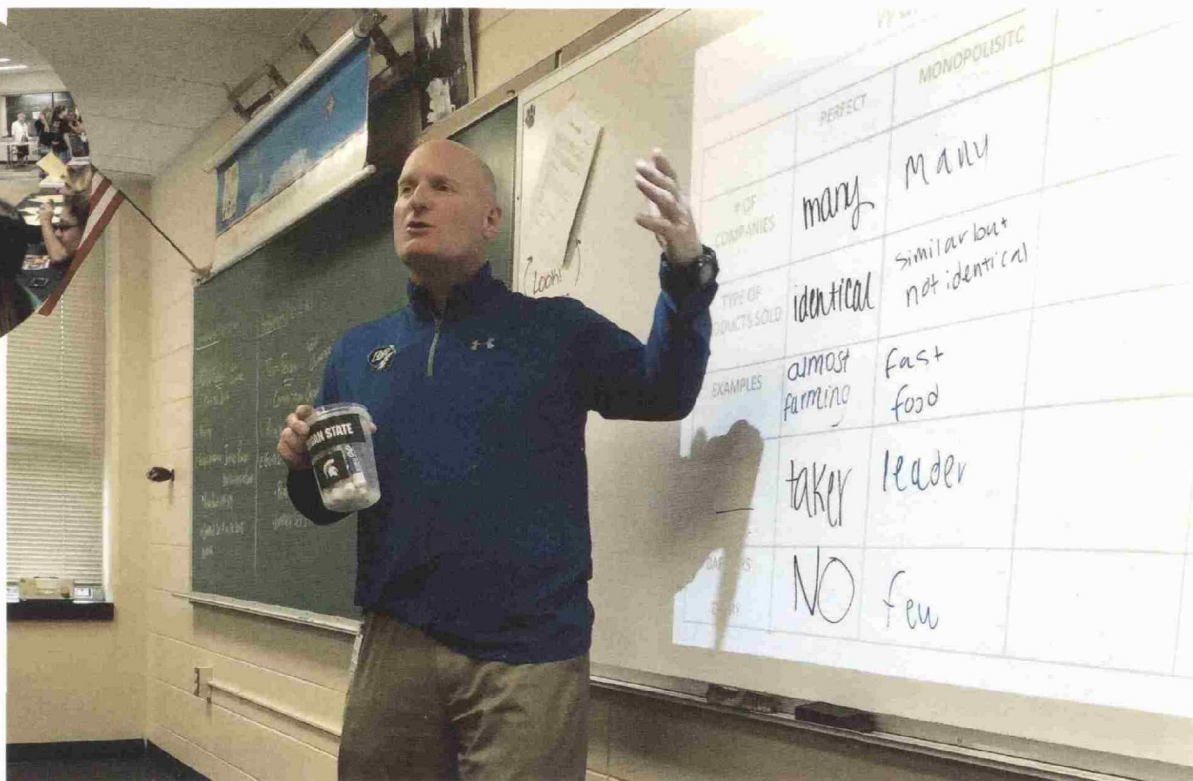


**Joy Ichiyama,
science**

While teaching economics, Jim Pickett, social studies department, loves making class enjoyable for everyone. "For the past 25 years, I've tried to add my own flair to class to make learning a little more exhilarating," said Pickett.



Brian Orkis, principal



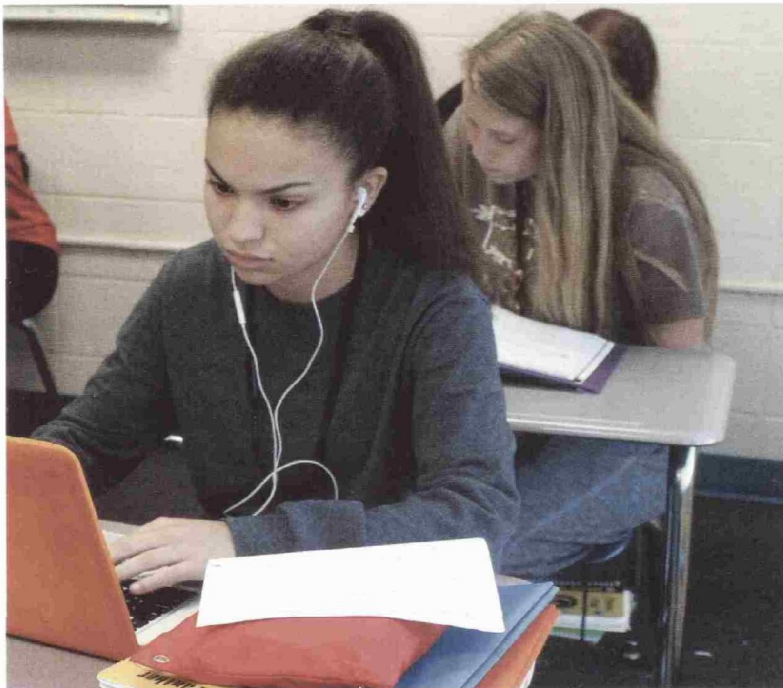
MINUTE MATH

by: Mikensie Shultman

Griffith High School started off their year with a great accomplishment, new books. Not all classes were lucky enough to get up-to-date books, but as for the entire math department, they received brand new books. To make sure they stay in good condition, the teachers decided to make it mandatory that every student either bought a book cover, or made one from an old paper bag. Websites such as Khan Academy and MathLab were used consistently this year and helped students receive some extra practice. For seniors and juniors in the harder classes like Pre Calculus, AP Calculus, and AP Statistics, they were going to need all the help they could get and the teachers were all willing to help as much as they could. Not only that, but the teachers had set up math help everyday after school.

"I really like Mr. McCoy. He was my teacher last year for geometry and now he is my teacher for Algebra 2 as well, I really like how he teaches because he breaks down everything so everyone understands it," said junior Emily

While sitting in Mr. McCoy's Algebra II class, junior Islam Amara works on the classroom laptop. "Mr. McCoy makes Algebra so easy for me to understand," said Amara.



Marsh.

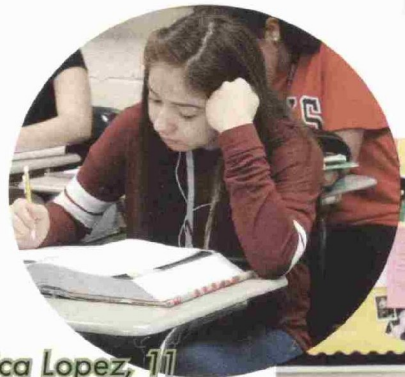
One teacher who was adored by many students, Richard Morgan (Mr. Morgan), transferred schools and a new teacher, Mrs. Gabler came to Griffith High School to take his place at the beginning of the school year. "I really like Mrs. Gabler, she's really great at going into detail about what we do in class and she's always asked if we had any questions," said junior Chris Sarang.

"Pre Calculus is a really hard class because the problems are longer and it's easier to make mistakes, but overall I like it like that," said junior Makenna Sons

Once the year had settled down more, students in all level math classes were starting to get into the mix of things.

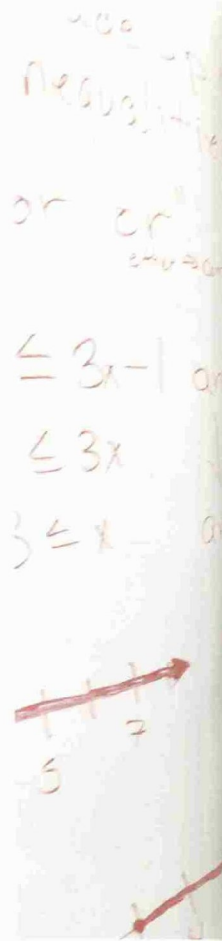
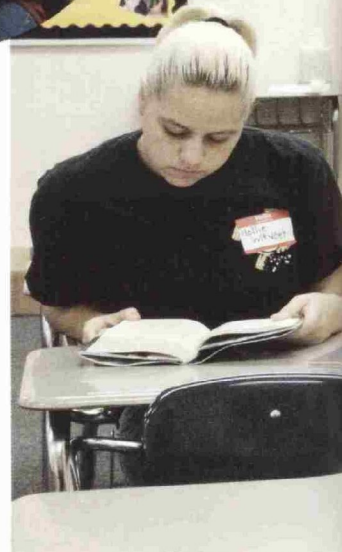
"Pre Calculus is a really hard class because the problems are longer and it's easier to make mistakes, but overall I like that it tests me and makes me try my best," said junior Makenna Sons.

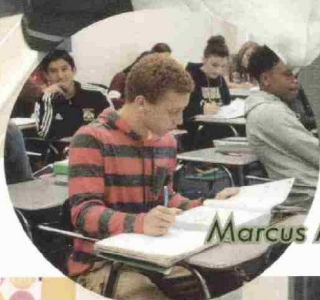
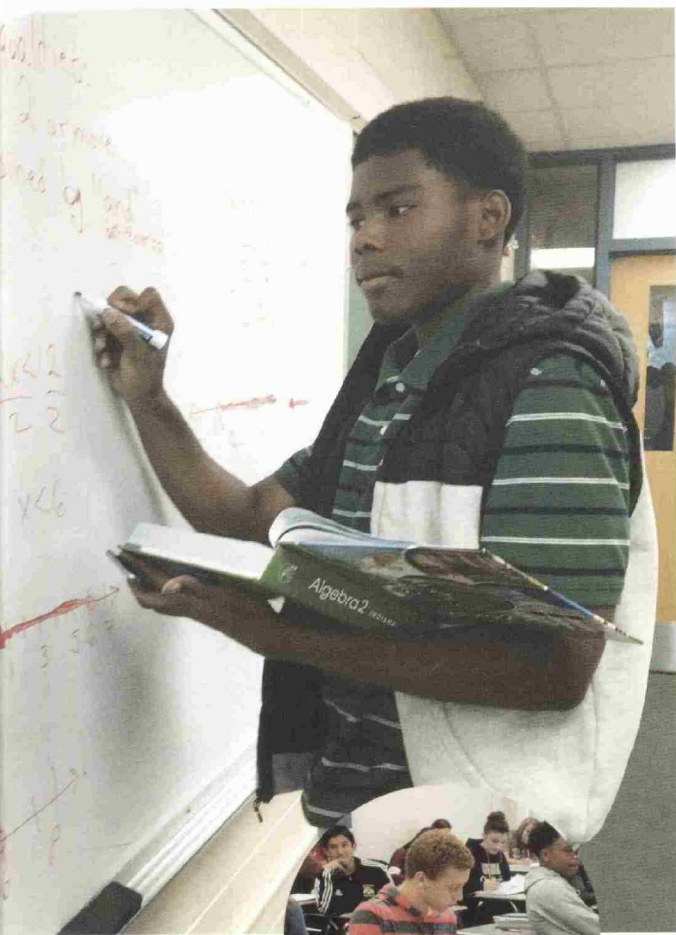
Although math is a challenging subject, we use many of the things we learn in math in our everyday life. Most have used it to calculate the amount of money they've spent, and how much they should tip someone. So if you think about it, is math really that bad after all?



Jessica Lopez, 11

While in Mrs. Januska's class, senior Hollie Witvoet reads a book after she is done with her work, "I like that I am able to just chill out after I'm done with my work," said Witvoet.

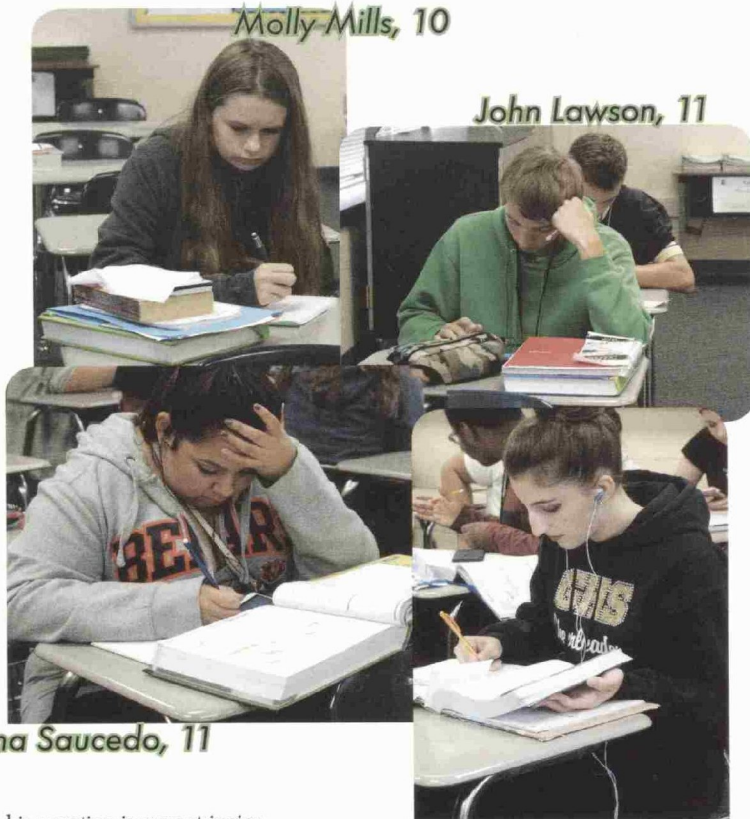




Marcus Marquand, 11



Molly Mills, 10



John Lawson, 11

Brianna Saucedo, 11

To prove his equation is correct junior Hugh Rogers does a problem on the board in Algebra 2. "Algebra 2 can be pretty challenging, but overall it is a good class," said Rogers.

Paige Zoran, 10

Ticking equation



Cody Marsh, 9

"I really like math even though it isn't my favorite subject. I like how everything in math is related to each other in some way. I also like how there is always multiple ways to solve one problem, so you can use what method works best for you."

"Math is one of my favorite subjects because I have always done really well in it. Right now I am in geometry. It is challenging but overall I'm doing pretty well in it. I like my teacher because they really know how to break things down and explain them."



Paige Borowski, 10

TIMED WRITING

by: Andrew Braddy

This year the English department had new unique ideas while also bringing back some events that they had last year, such as the annual movie night which was hosted on October 13th, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the courtyard. This year's movie was *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. This is the 2nd year that the English department has hosted this event.

"My favorite part of the movie was when Sherlock Holmes foretold the future because I was astonished by it and that's when I got hooked to the movie. I would definitely go to the movie night again next year if they have it," said freshman Shawn Hocking.

One important thing that had the students and teachers very excited was that Governor Mike Pence signed a bill declaring that this was the last year students in Indiana had to take ISTEP in English, Math, Social Studies, and Science. "I'm extremely excited that we won't be doing ISTEP after this year because we should be focusing on learning other things that we all want to learn and need to learn before we graduate. Besides, I'm not that good of a test taker," said junior Marcus Marquand.

In the classroom, students continued to build on their writing skills and enhancing their answers in their English classes this year. "Mr. Dunlap is always telling us to elaborate on our answers to make them better, and he does a really great job of helping us do that," said sophomore Mason Isenblatter.

"Ms. Rainge makes learning English enjoyable because she's always full of energy and enjoys helping out her students," said sophomore Matthew Curiel.

Teachers at GHS have also had their students do more group projects this year, so students can learn to work together as a team. "My favorite part of Ms. Week's English class is when she lets us work in groups to do group writing or work on our vocabulary because I always think better and get done faster with other people working with me," said junior Joshua Bacon.

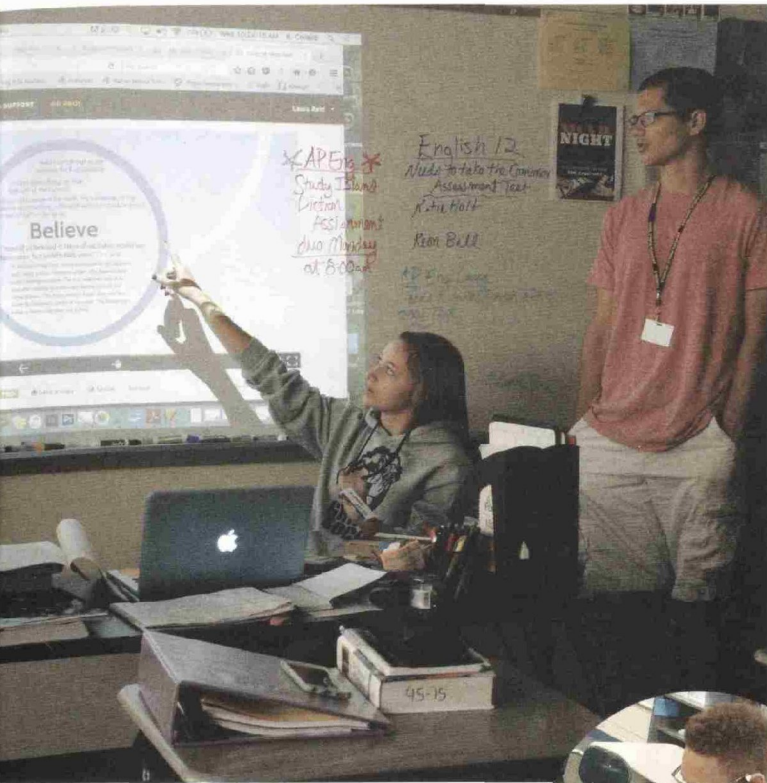
The English department also brought in three new teachers this year: Dawn Weeks, Ella Swinney, and Althea Rainge. "Ms. Rainge makes learning English enjoyable because she's always full of energy and enjoys helping out her students," said sophomore Matthew Curiel.

The English department will continue to teach students all the elements of English curriculum they need before they graduate.

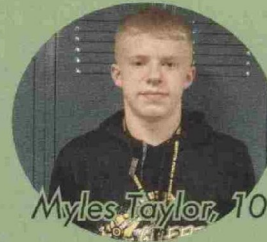


In Carl Dunlap's 4th hour English class, sophomores Emily Judge and Kaitlyn Whaley work together on filling out their worksheet on the poem "Early Autumn" by Langston Hughes. "Early Autumn is a very colorful poem and I like the poems' theme about love and how it compares to fall," said Judge.

While presenting a powerpoint in Kristina Collard's English class about the novel called "Broken," juniors Samuel Stassin and Laura Reid talk about the main idea of the story. "My favorite part was when Louie and Phil were taken away by the Japanese," said Stassin.



Writing vs. Reading



Myles Taylor, 10

"*The Catcher in the Rye* was my favorite book that we read in English this year and I especially liked the dialogue from way back in the 1950's. I was really excited and curious to read this book because my favorite books to read are historic novels."

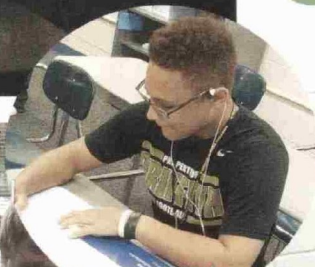
"My favorite piece of writing that we did this year in English was writing about what we did over the summer because I got to relive going to Las Vegas through my writing. I was pretty excited to write about that trip in Mrs. Collard's class."



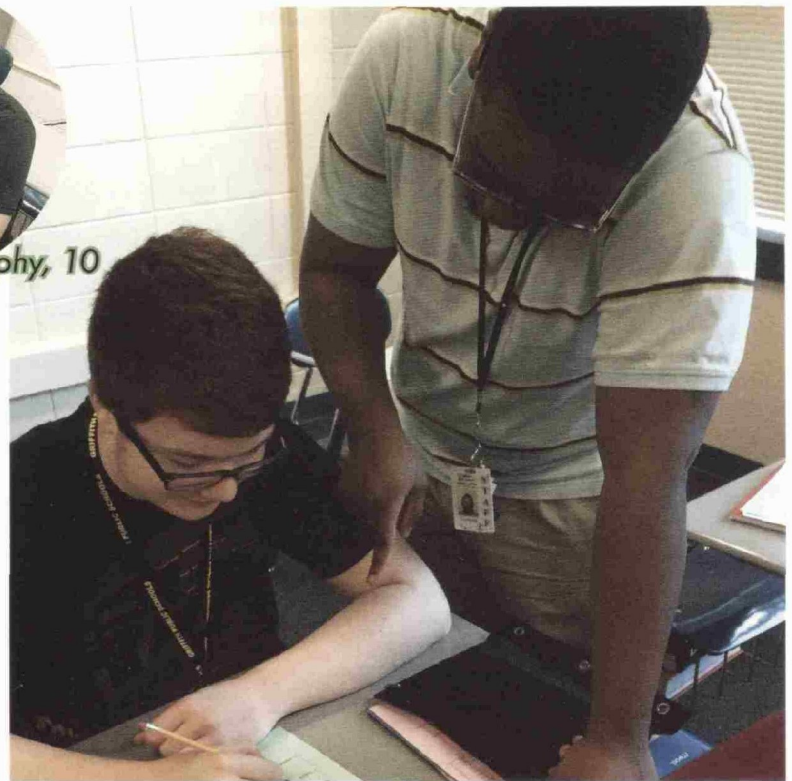
Julian Molina, 12



Typing diligently in her 7th hour English class, freshman Braylin Welk works on an argumentative essay about the Supreme Court. "I always look forward to typing on the computers because it gives me a break from writing all the time," said Welk.



Stephon Murphy, 10



"I was fascinated by the way that certain countries blocked out communications from other countries," said sophomore Ben Rutherford, while he receives help from Carl Dunlap on a mood worksheet for a short story called *The Censors*.

LAB HOURS

by: Damian Villalpando

For many students at GHS, working in a science lab is an interesting and enlightening experience. It builds up on what students have already learned in class and gives a hands on approach to demonstrate how things work, only in greater detail.

When looking back, many students would agree that some of their favorite moments in a classroom were in fact working in a science lab. "I look forward to the labs we do in science because it gives me first-hand experience to work with the chemicals themselves," said junior Anthony Rodriguez, "rather than just learning about them in the book."

Students went to the field behind the bus barn near Beiriger and launched air propelled rockets. With many intriguing projects, such as the cell model project in Julie Wencloff's biology class, or the rocket lab in Jane Villaroman's physics class, students have something else to look forward to besides tests, quizzes, and notes.

Despite all this, science isn't all labs and experiments. It's also hours filled with dreadful note taking and study-

ing for tests and quizzes. "I don't really study for tests that often, the material usually just sticks with me when I first learn it," said freshman Ryan Davenport. Luckily, the science department at GHS covers its subjects in depth and concisely. A few classes offered include:

Earth and space science with Laura North, biology and anatomy with department head Julie Wencloff, and chemistry or physics with Jane Villaroman.

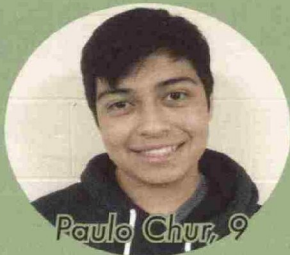
In Biology 1, students are presented with the fundamentals of biology, some of which they already know. Biology generally has lessons over cells, fats, and carbohydrates. "I actually knew a fair bit of biology going into the course," said freshman Xavier Lopez. "I'm certainly still learning a lot, but it's a bit easier than I thought it would be."

On the other hand, most students entering a chemistry or physics class may have little to no previous experience with the subjects being taught.

With many new subjects being presented daily, science is a constant pursuit of knowledge. Learning these new and exciting subjects is the job of students at GHS.

"I don't really study for tests that often, the material usually just sticks with me when I first learn it," said freshman Ryan Davenport.

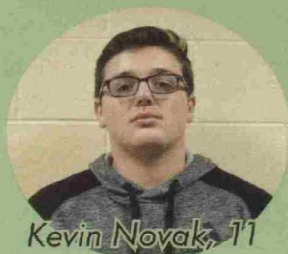
Hardest lab



Paulo Chur, 9

"The hardest lab for me was the pH lab in Mrs. Wencloff's Biology class where we had to test the pH of various substances. The colors never accurately matched, and it didn't give precise results, so we had to guess what color it most likely represented. It took forever."

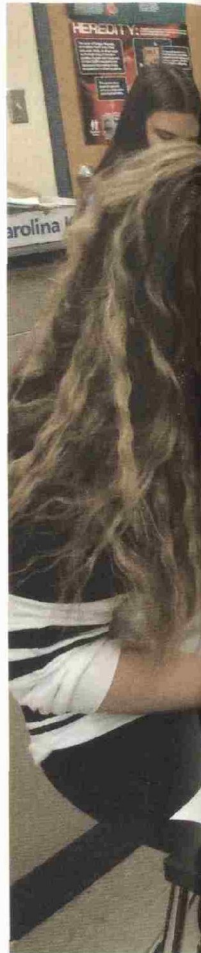
"I think the hardest lab for me was probably dissecting the frog in anatomy. It was nasty, and I didn't even want to touch the frog because I thought it looked disgusting. I would never do it again if I had the choice."



Kevin Novak, 11



Laughing with a friend, junior Grace Szymanski uses an air pump to prepare her lab. "The rocket lab was really enjoyable. We found the acceleration, velocity, and who could launch their rocket the highest," said Szymanski.



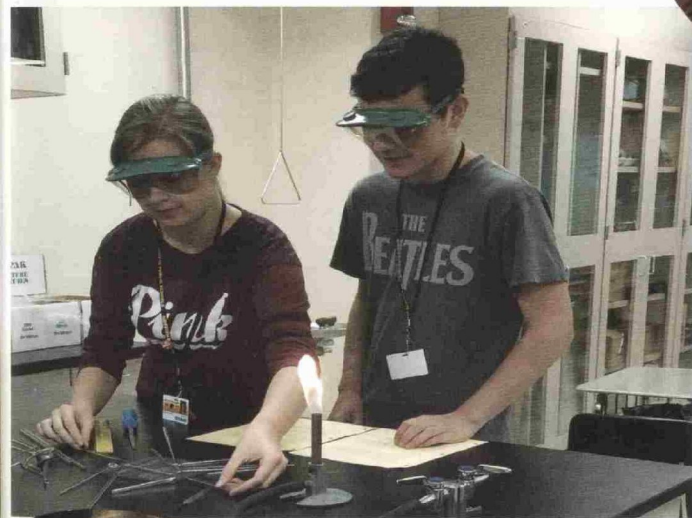


Sophomores Madalyn Banhart, Daanah Suboh, Zoe Shumaker, and Jessica Gonzalez work on a lab in Julie Wencloff's class, where they test various substances for their pH ratings. "I hated the pH lab, it was so repetitive and dull. The paper wouldn't change color or do anything interesting at all," said Suboh.

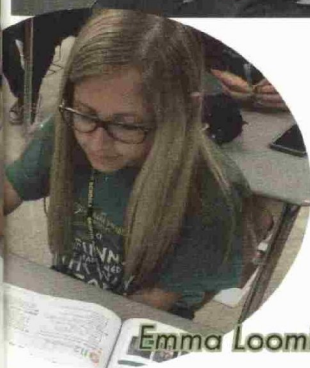


To finish their lab project on velocity, senior Jessica Diaz and junior Autumn Ukso quickly add weights to their cart model. "We added weights to our cart to test for velocity using timer tape. It was really enjoyable to see my cart go so fast with the weights," said Diaz.

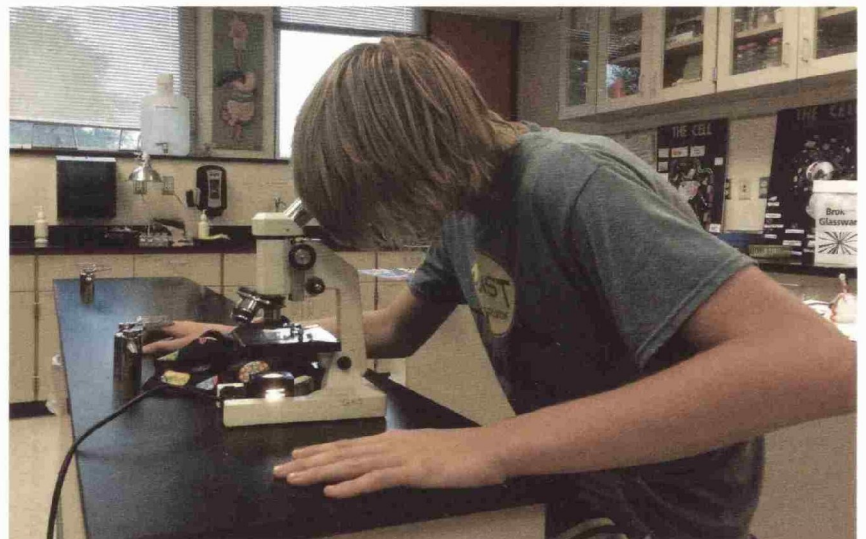
Giselle Valentin, 11



Diligently studying the flame in front of them for the glass lab, seniors Alyssa Skertich and Exavio Zeiler carefully examine the burner in front of them. "It was really cool to see the glass bend and how it changed color with temperature. It was interesting to see how something so normally fragile could be so malleable," said Zeiler.



Emma Loomis, 10



While looking into the microscope, junior Hunter Smolen views cells in Julie Wencloff's Biology 1 course. "I actually really enjoy science class. You get to learn all about the body and cells and how they all work together. It's something that I'm really interested in," said Smolen.

A BLAST TO THE PAST

by: Hannah Bubala & Emilia Shapiro

Everyday is different at Griffith High School, much like the world around us. History is always rewriting itself and expanding. Everyday in the news there is a new story, or a new event that took place and will be remembered.

History classes help students learn about these events that took place thousands of years ago.

During the 2016-2017 school year, Griffith High School offered a variety of social studies classes to choose from, including World History, U.S. history, AP U.S. history, Indiana history, psychology, AP psychology, and government.

The head of the social studies department is Jim Pickett, government teacher. He also teaches economics and AP government. Jenna Candiano taught several social studies classes throughout the year. She taught Indiana history for one semester, and geography and world history for two semesters.

"World History is really interesting; I've learned so much from it. It's crazy to see how things have evolved over

time," said freshman Cody Marsh.

"World history is really interesting. I've learned so much from it. It's crazy to see how things have evolved over time," said freshman Cody Marsh.

U.S. history and AP U.S. history were taught by Luann Pramuk. APUSH took a field trip with Shannon Scheidel's interior design class to Navy Pier in Chicago for an architectural boat tour down the Chicago River. "I learned a lot about the architecture and history of Chicago. Every time we passed a skyscraper the tour guide would tell us facts about it. Afterwards, we were able to go to Navy Pier and hang out with our friends for an hour. Overall, it was a great experience," said junior Storm Flemming.

Other social studies classes Griffith High School offered were psychology and AP psychology. In these classes, students learned about the mind and why people behave a certain way.

"Psychology is really interesting. I love learning about what makes people act the way they do. It is a difficult class but Mrs. Berzy really makes everything easy to understand," said junior Hailey Moore.



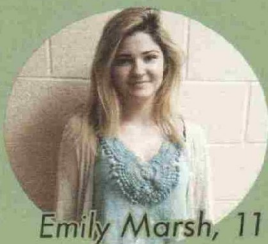
How to take notes



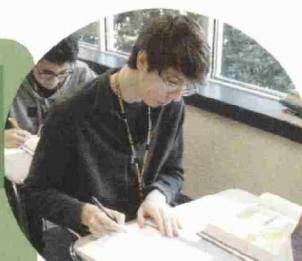
Jovhana Chenoweth, 9

"I think taking long notes is better than taking shorter notes because it helps you study and the notes are more specific. Paying attention in class helps. Then, you know what you're writing down and it helps you understand the material."

"My tip to taking good notes is to make sure you don't ramble. I use the three bullet point rule: it's when you only write down three bullet points per paragraph. By doing this you write down only the key details."



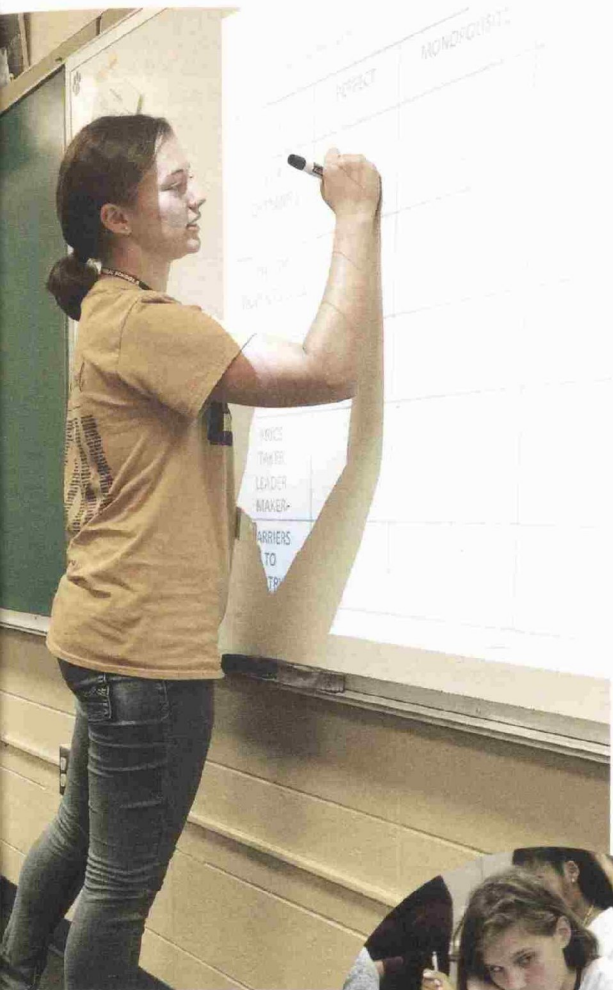
Emily Marsh, 11



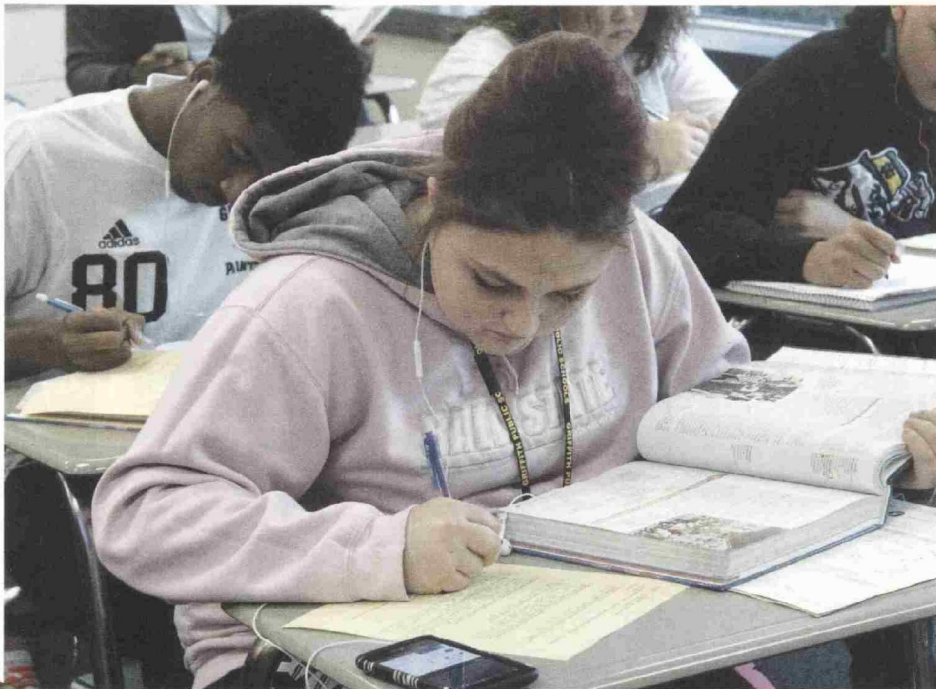
Daniel Welch, 11



Social Studies department head Jim Pickett teaches his 3rd period about the Senate and its branches during a government class. The students ask questions and take notes on the large and small states in the U.S.



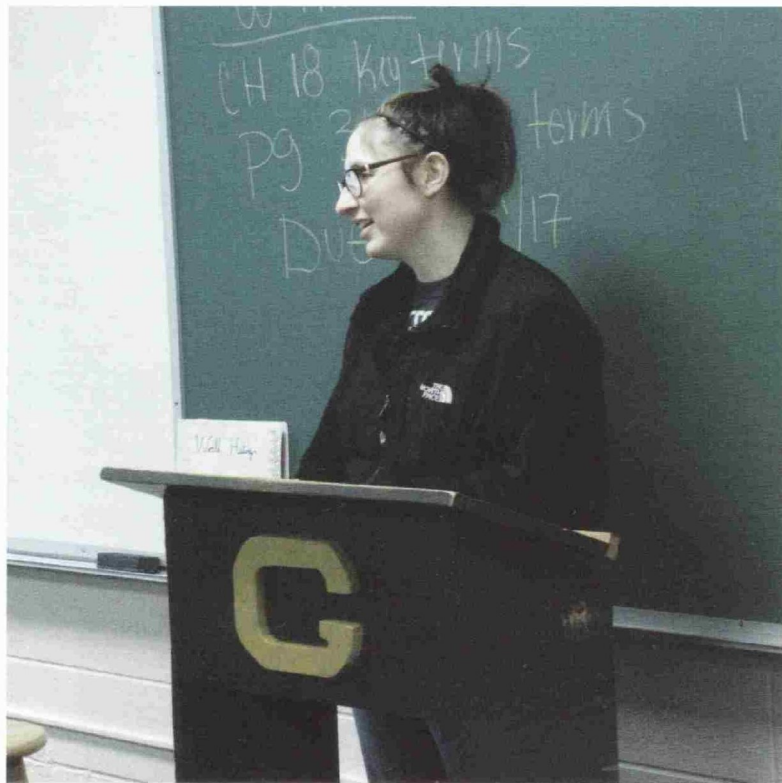
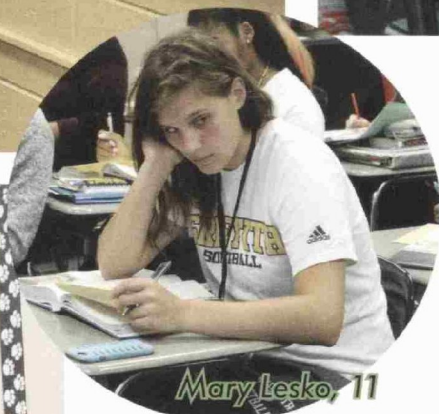
In economics, senior Rachel Kruhaj writes the answer on the board. "We had to write down characteristics of each business competition. The class was amazing because of the students and the teacher," said Kruhaj.



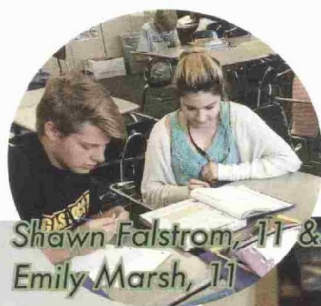
While in U.S. history class, junior Megan Schambers completes an assignment with the help of her book. "I like that Mrs. Pramuk lets us use the book for worksheets. It really helps us," said Schambers.



Jenna Candiano informs her World History class about the crisis in Europe. "I like teaching World History because you go to other parts of the world, learn about different cultures, and it's always changing," Candiano said.

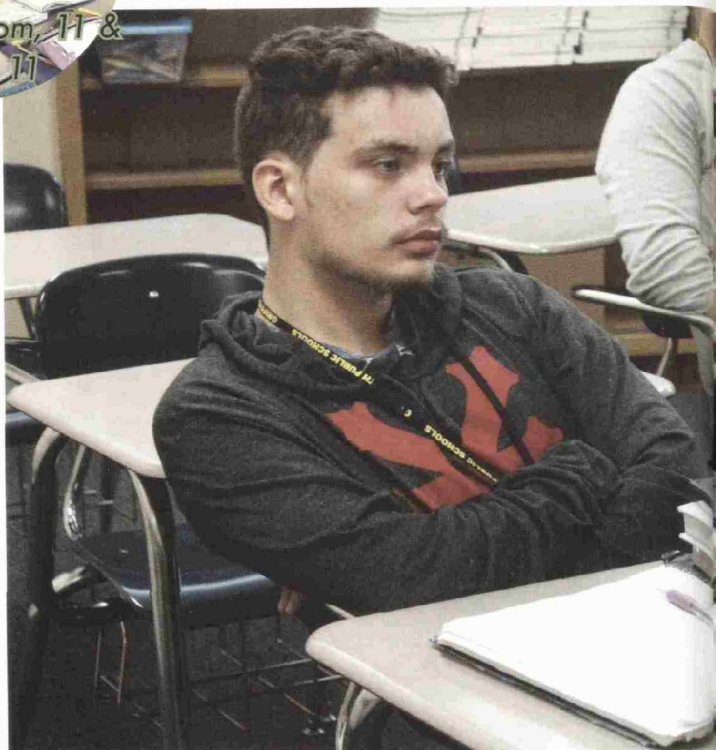
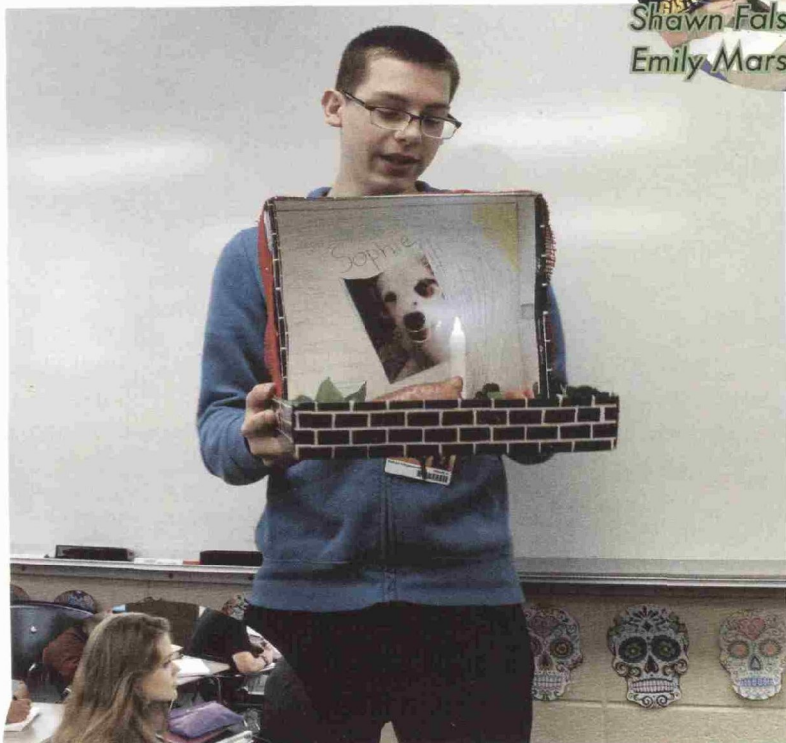


Holding his Day of the Dead project, junior Nathan Klingensmith represented his late dog, Sophie. "This project helped me honor Sophie's death in a public environment, which I felt was special," said Klingensmith.

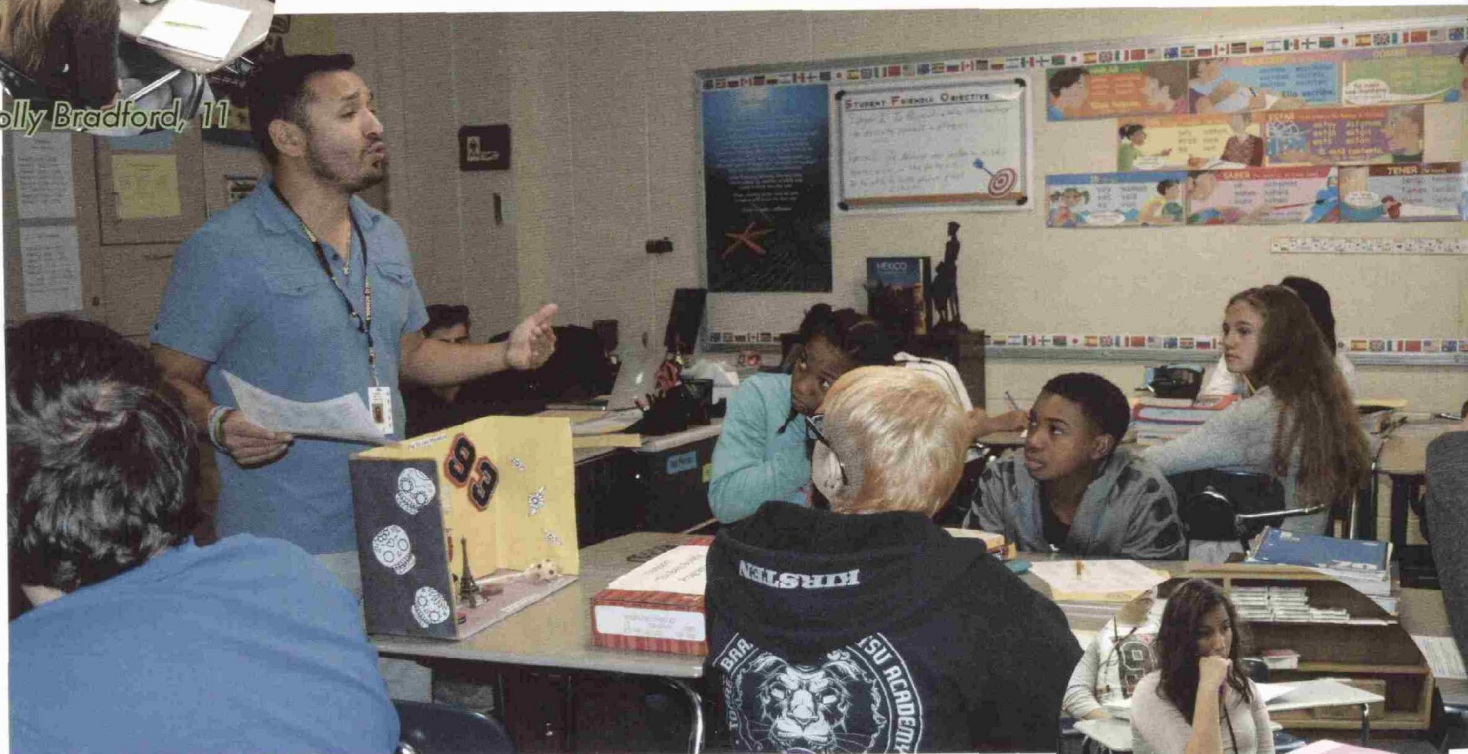


Shawn Falstrom, 11 &
Emily Marsh, 11

While sitting, junior McGwire Adams concentrates on what Lorraine Hageman, foreign language, is saying. "My favorite thing about French is that I get to learn a whole new language to carry on in my lifetime," said Adams.



Molly Bradford, 11



Since it was the month of October, many Spanish classes had a Day of the Dead project to complete. "For our project we had to honor a passed relative," said sophomore Tianna Harris.

Emily Gonzales, 12

hOLA, BONJOUR

by: Grace Opinker



Starting in middle school, students had the option to take Spanish or French as an elective. Some students took one of the classes to get ahead for when they got into high school. "I began taking French during eighth grade because I wanted to get a head start and finish all four years of the class," said sophomore Haley Greep.

Griffith offers up to French IV and Spanish IV. "I've taken both Spanish and French and I prefer French more because the grammar is easier to comprehend," said sophomore Jaedynn Williamson. Students are required to take at least two years of a foreign language. If students choose to go for an academic honors diploma, they are required to take three years of one language or two years each of both languages.

Our foreign language department had three teachers this past school year. Lorraine Hageman taught French I-IV. New to the school this year were Veronica Garcia and Castulo Perez. Veronica Garcia taught Spanish I, III, and IV. "I am glad that I was able to come to Griffith this year because all of the students are hardworking. I like teaching Spanish I because it is a learning experience for the

kids, however, I also like teaching Spanish III and IV because I feel that I can be more creative," said Garcia.

Castulo Perez taught Spanish I and II for his first year at Griffith. "I've taught Spanish for twelve years now and I was interested in coming to Griffith to teach because it seemed like a good school and I also know the athletic director, Stacy Adams," said Perez. He had a total of 188 students throughout Spanish I and II.

"I took Spanish this year because the culture is interesting to learn," said freshman Thomas Roter-mund.

Spanish classes did Day of the Dead projects during the month of October and November. Students created shoe boxes to represent past family members or role models. "I did my shoe box honoring my dog, Candy, because she was special in my life," said junior Austin Lomax.

French teacher Lorraine Hageman has taught at Griffith for twelve years. "Every year more students take French. I enjoy teaching French because I feel like I can make connections from English because the two languages are both similar in many ways," said Hageman.

"I think it's important for students to learn a new language because they can carry it on throughout their lives," said sophomore Ashley Trice.



After opening his book, senior Alec Pena begins doing his Spanish assignments. "I enjoy Spanish III because it is laid back; however, we do have a lot of notes and book work that I'm not always fond of doing," said Pena

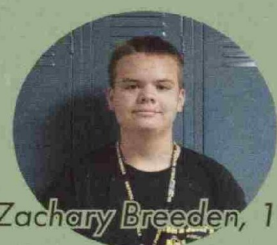
French vs. Spanish



Marixa Acevedo, 10

"I decided to enroll in French because I already know Spanish and I wanted to learn a third language. I like both languages equally though because they have similar grammar. This year is my second year participating in French."

"I am currently enrolled in Spanish III. I took this course originally because I believe it is a good base language to learn. Another reason I wanted to take Spanish is because if I go to exotic places in the future, I will be able to communicate with others."



Zachary Breeden, 10

WORKING HARD

by: Megan Wilson

Many students at Griffith High School aspire to work in the various fields of business in the future. To their advantage, many classes that teach the ins and outs of business are offered here. Classes, such as personal finance, gave students an in-depth look into the real world of money and managing finances and personal businesses. Others, like computer science, gave insight to working with and creating products or photos with the help of computer programs. The classes emerged students in simulations and situations where they must use common sense and intuition to solve problems.

While some of these classes, like marketing, intro to computer science, and accounting, are chosen specifically by students through their personal choices, others must be taken in order to graduate, such as personal finance. This class prepared students for their futures and introduced them to dealing with money and their future college finances.

"At first, I thought I wouldn't really take much in

from my class. But later on, I started applying what I learned in class to my life outside of it," said freshman Cody Marsh.

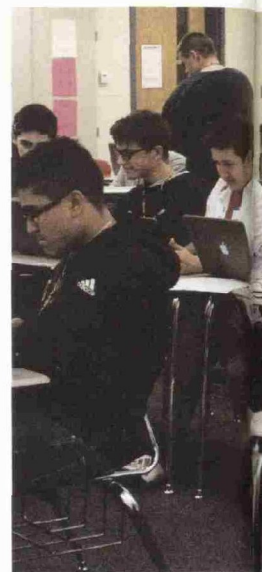
"At first, I thought I wouldn't really take much in from my class. But later on, I started applying what I learned in my class to my life outside of it," said freshman Cody Marsh.

With the help of the teachers, students got a head start in their adult lives. They got to experience real world scenarios through projects with their peers, and these classes mentally and physically prepared them if they later wish to go into business as an adult after college. These classes might teach students financial terms and issues, but they also give students new abilities and ways to overcome problems.

"I've learned a variety of skills from my class so far," said junior Rafael Valencia.

"My class is full of entertaining and helpful people, and we all get along really well."

One could say that the classes that are offered here at not only taught students business and computer skills, but communication skills as well. Students had to cooperate and work together to complete their missions and goals. Then, as if their teacher was the boss, they had to present their ideas and projects in order to succeed. In

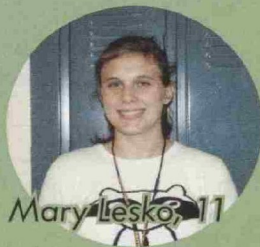


Let's get down to business



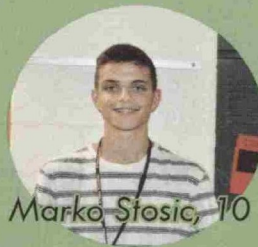
Jake Diamond, 11

"I'm in a computer science class, and it's helped me really decide on what I want to do after graduation. My class has taught me how to code, and the basic principles of how a computer works."



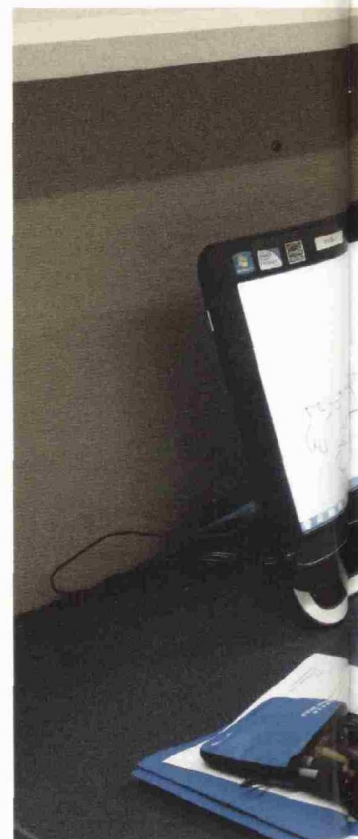
Mary Lesko, 11

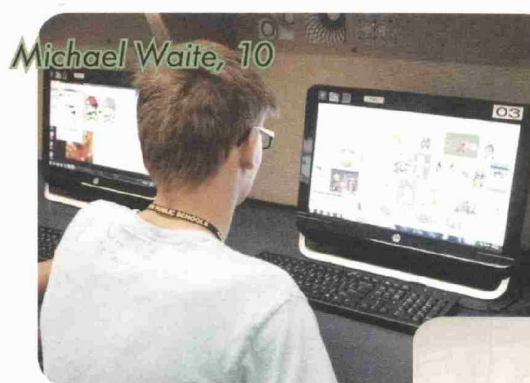
"After high school, I want to become a computer engineer. This year, I took a computer science class, and I've taken in a lot of information, such as the history of computers, and the basics of programming."



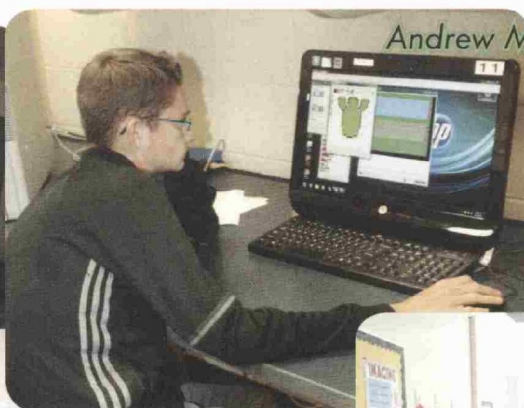
Marko Stosic, 10

"Spending my time in my class has taught me how to program computer games and control the pieces that are crucial to how it functions. You have to analyze every small detail to make sure it works properly."

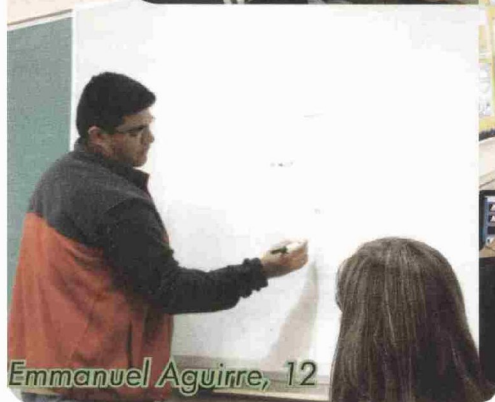
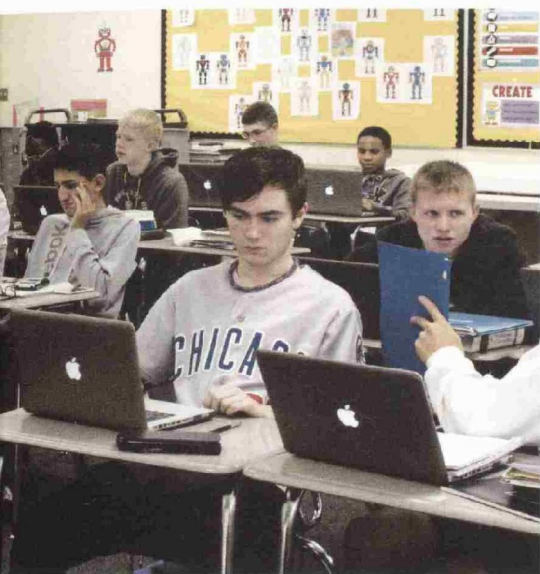




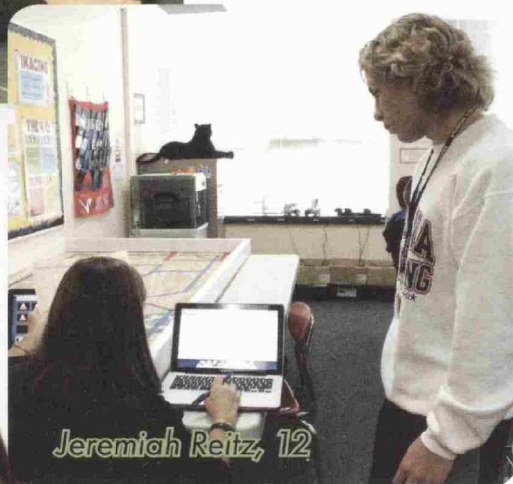
Michael Waite, 10



Andrew Masters, 12



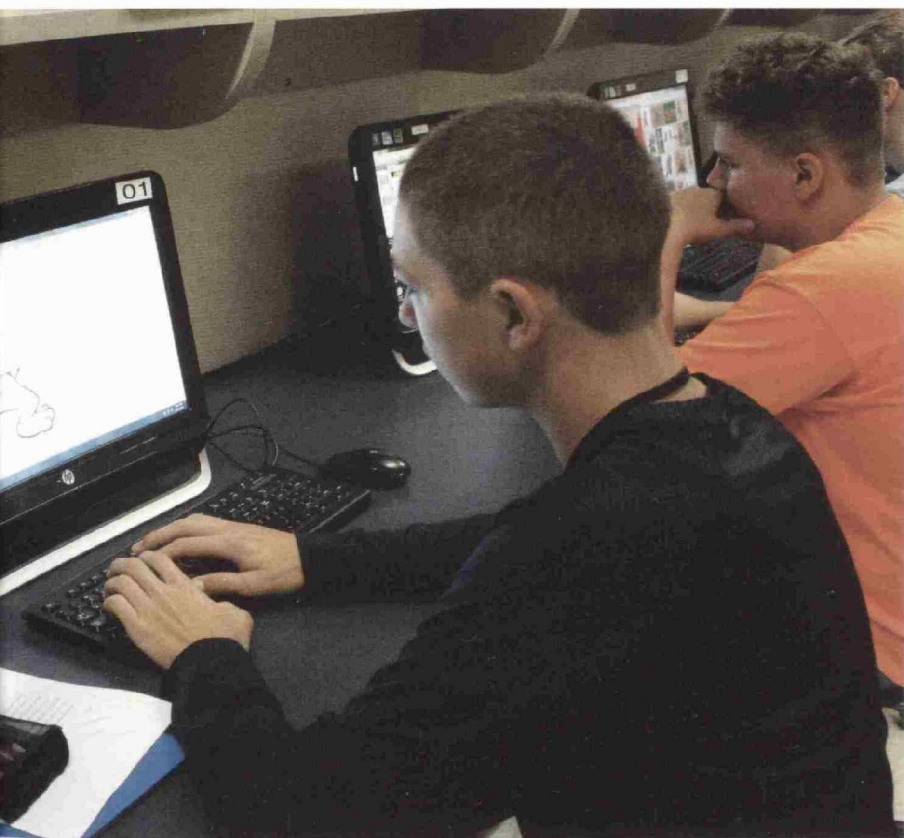
Emmanuel Aguirre, 12



Jeremiah Reitz, 12

With his class all typing and clicking in silence, senior Carson Grin leans over to talk to senior Jeremiah Reitz. "Communication is really stressed and is definitely needed here," said Grin.

Focusing on his work, junior Garrett Zambo works diligently. "These classes aren't the most entertaining, but they do teach you a variety of skills you may need," said Zambo.



As he works on his project, sophomore Chris Albanese loads up a photo. "This class is a unique challenge and I usually enjoy it. It's made me consider career options," said Albanese.

IT'S COLOR TIME

by: Andrew Braddy

At Griffith High School, there are several courses that students who are interested in art can take. These courses include ceramics, drawing, photography, and 3-D art. Students can really express themselves for an hour of the day through art.

One of the more popular art classes is ceramics, which was taught by Jim Graff. "Ceramics is my favorite class of the day because I get to do something that I have been interested in since middle school. We do a lot of interesting pottery, like we made a pot out of clay coils. It was a really amazing project after it was all done," said sophomore Makenzie Degand-McKinney. Graff also taught photography, which showed students how to take the best high quality photos they could. It also taught them how to print their photos using chemicals inside of the dark room.

"Mr. Graff is an awesome teacher because he teaches us all the elements of photography and makes it exciting while he's teaching it to us," said sophomore Chyanne Skarzynski.

"Mr. Graff is an awesome teacher because he teaches us all the elements of photography and makes it exciting," said sophomore Chyanne Skarzynski.

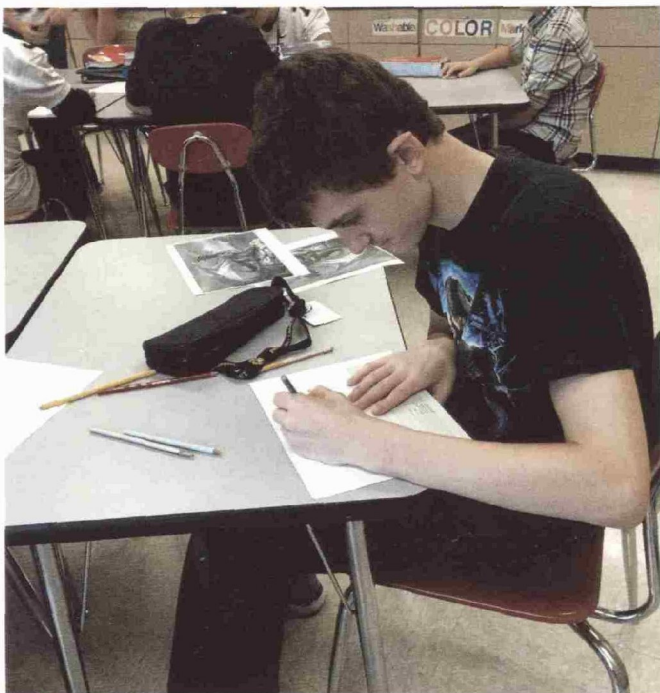
In addition to photography and ceramics, there are three other art classes that are taught by Margaret Rivera. Art history, beginning drawing, and 3-D art.

"In art history we take a lot of notes about the history of art. The most interesting thing we have learned so far is about what the Egyptians did and how they created art," said freshman Jesse Miller.

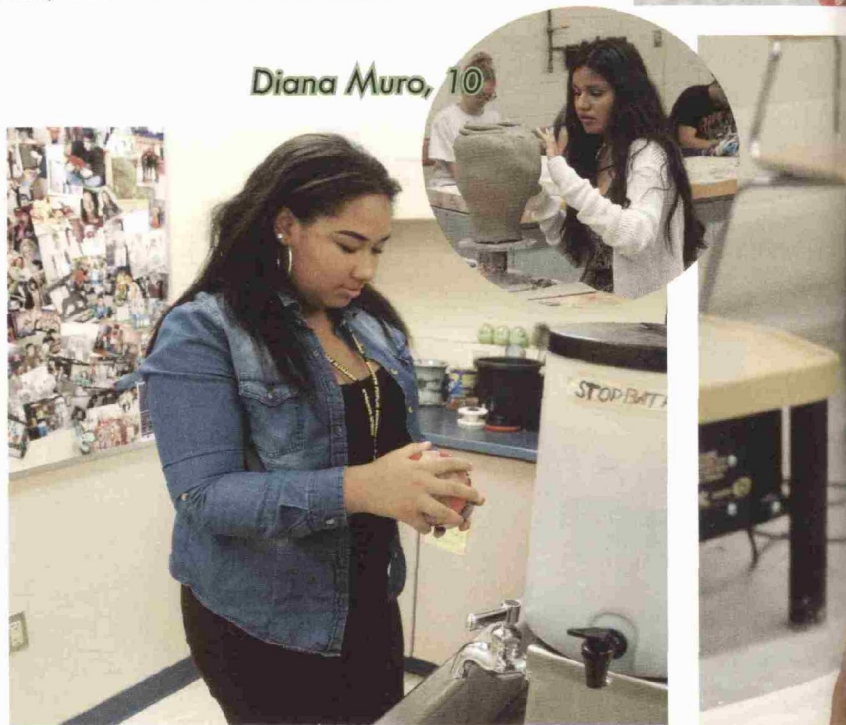
In 3-D art, students learned how to make things using their hands and they use different materials to make the objects that Rivera assigned to them. They made a small person out of clay, wire, and plaster cloth and also painted several pictures in Rivera's class as well. The whole object of 3-D art is to make things by hand that are right in front of you. Students also painted masks and decorated them.

All these art classes taught students the different elements of art and enabled them to use their imagination in their own way and experience new levels of creativity. "In 3-D art, we learn a lot about using cloth and wire because you can make anything out of those two materials," said freshman Vincent Conti.

Coloring in his Google sign with colored pencils, freshman Thomas Rotermund said, "I really enjoy drawing and that's why I chose a drawing class this year as an elective."



Diana Muro, 10



While in photography, sophomore Jaedynn Williamson develops her pictures. "Photography is a very interesting class because it's really incredible how pictures are developed," said Williamson.



"Making the opening of the coil pot was really entertaining and awesome to make," said junior Matthew Alvarez as he spins the clay to get his coil pot project done.

Ceramics Vs. 3-D Art



Jasmine Gutierrez, 10

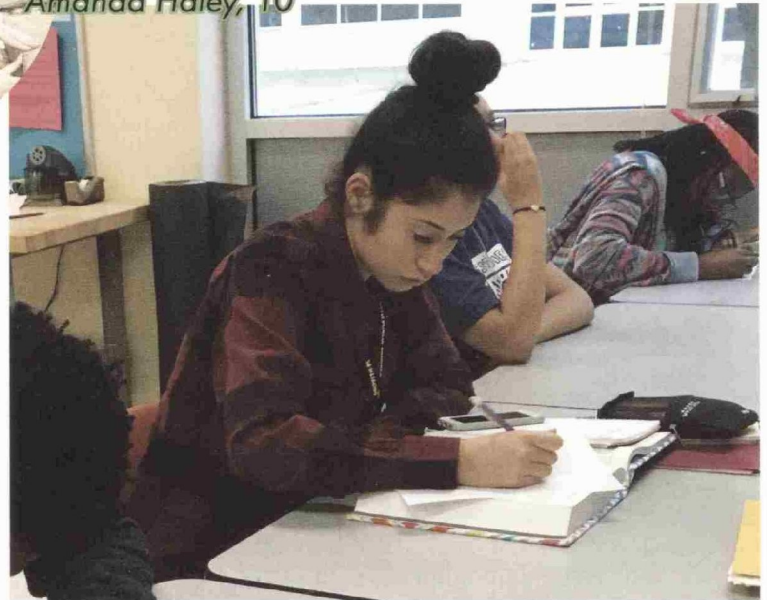
"I really enjoyed 3-D art this year in Ms. Rivera's class because we did a lot of creative projects and I love to create things with my hands. My favorite project we did this year was making a small person out of clay, wire, and plaster cloth."

"Ceramics was a bit of a surprise to me this year because I learned a lot of neat things. My favorite part of ceramics was smoothing out the clay and molding the clay into pottery. I thought that was really exciting. I would certainly take Ceramics again if I had the choice."



Erik Martinez, 11

Amanda Haley, 10



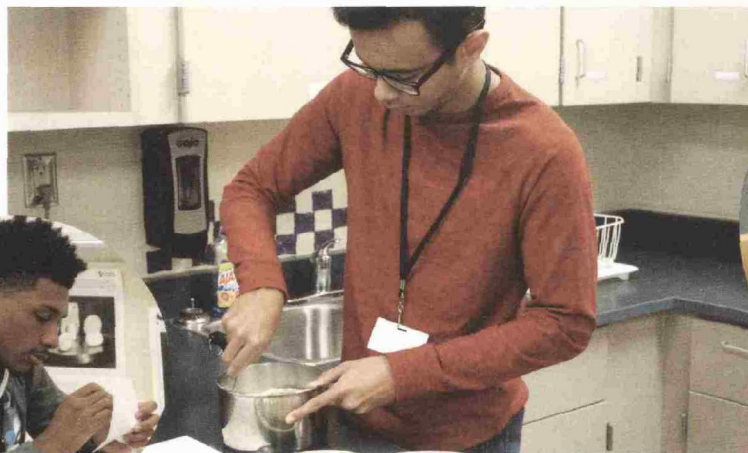
In order to work diligently, junior Rebecca Flores starts by cutting her slabs in Jim Graff's ceramics class. "My coil pot was beautiful after it was done and I put in a lot of hard work while making it," said Flores.

"I was tracing my animal drawing from the book onto my paper because Miss Rivera told me to start tracing my animal until I get better at drawing," said senior Megan Madrigal.



Senior Diana Huerta has always dreamed of being a good parent. "Walking around with the empathy belly was very uncomfortable; however, I felt like being in child development prepared me for the future," said Huerta.

Producing the perfect dish came naturally to freshman Curtis Carter. This typically challenges his desire to eat the dish before it's done. "The fact that I get to eat food in class is difficult, but also appeasing," Carter said.



Elvee Evans, 11

funky FACS

by: Alexia Smith

The FACS department had many different opportunities and a big variety for students. Child development, culinary arts, textiles, interior decorating, and baking were all offered. Each course prepared students for their future as adults in the real world, without their parents. In the course, child development, students were taught how babies grew, developed, and how to take care of them properly. They also experienced being "pregnant", by wearing a fake belly known as an empathy belly.

During the culinary arts course, students prepared delicious meals, learned food handling skills, how to be safe in the kitchen, and precise units of measure. After their work is finished, the students had the opportunity to enjoy their tasty treat they created themselves.

"Being able to eat different foods you've made yourself is awesome. It helps give a taste of how other cultures prepare their meals," said sophomore Tara Grochowski.

Often people misconstrued baking and culinary arts as the same class; however, they are two different proposi-

tions. Although baking and culinary arts both include being in the kitchen, the baking course involved a lot more listening and concentration, while in culinary arts, students had a little more freedom to experiment.

In textiles, students explored the world of needle and thread, sewing, and sewing machines. On a daily basis during the semester, students worked on sewing tote bags, frog pillows, and pajama bottoms.

"Making the tote bag was my favorite project because it was exhilarating," said sophomore Jayla Johnson.

Interior decorating is the decoration of the interior of a building or room, especially with regard to color combination and artistic effect.

"It's exciting to have the opportunity to decorate/design the inside of a house, and definitely made me think of interior decorating as a career," said sophomore Kaleisha Washington.

The students at GHS had many opportunities to be creative when decorating. This year, students designed and decorated rooms for their in-school projects.

"It's exciting to decorate/design the inside of a house, and definitely made me think of interior decorating as a career," said sophomore Kaleisha Washington.





Nina Stosic, 10

Ecstatic, freshman Tatianna Negrete had the time of her life in culinary with Ms. Novak, as well as the presence of her friends. "Being able to eat the food in culinary was great, but having Ms. Novak as a teacher and good friends really put the icing on the cake," said Negrete.



Lifelong skills



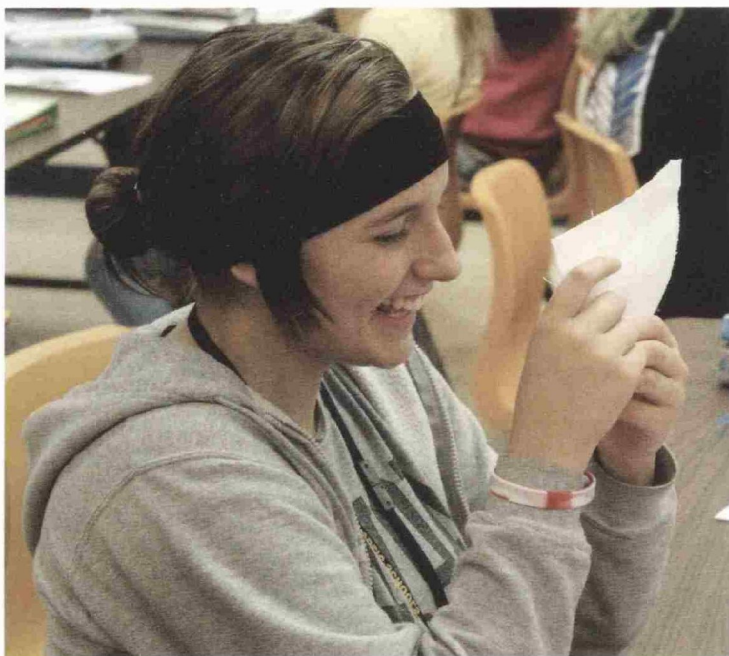
Kynide Williams, 10

"Being able to be independent and experiment with different foods can be stressful at times, but also very intriguing. Usually in class we learn how to make different kinds of cakes that vary from around the world. I tend to try to remake the recipes on my own at home."



KaiSeanna Andrews, 9

"My favorite thing about textiles is learning how to sew, and being able to make my own clothes. Being in the class with Ms. Scheidel makes the learning experience even better, especially because she's really calm and understanding."



Determined to add the correct amount of ingredients, freshman Percy Adkins whipped up some clay made from Kool-Aid in culinary. "I love cooking in culinary, especially since I plan to become a cuisine chef in the future," said Adkins.

Sewing rapidly with a smile on her face, freshman Jordyn Schierberl laughed at a funny joke while continuing her work. "Sewing came naturally for me, so usually I'm able to interact with my friends as well as be productive," said Schierberl.

IT'S TIME TO GET FIT

by: Jake Collins

PE, Team sports, Health and Awareness, and APC are one of the few classes where all physical activity is done. PE is a class where students can let out all the energy they have and enjoy their time with other people. Dodge-ball, flag football, kickball, whatever sport there was, the teacher of the class did their best to try and play all of them. The class is a chance for students to try different sports that they have never played or heard of. Certain teachers, like Rachel Chaves, even did yoga in their class.

There are three gym classes that the students could take. PE is usually the first class that students take when they get into their first year of gym. Students have many different activities in the class. The teacher even chose a certain sport to play and there was even, "Station Day," the stations involved many different work-outs like push-ups, sit-ups, jumping jacks, running, etc.

Team sports on the other hand, is a more athletic class taught by Ben Geffert or Mike Brown. More sports and physical activities were in the Team Sports class. "This year is the first year that I took Team Sports for one of my

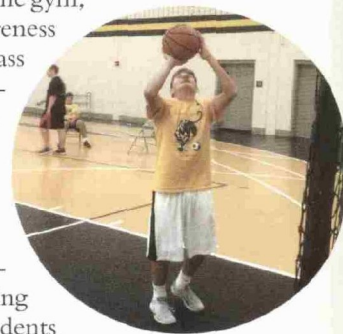
classes and I enjoy it everyday I go there," said sophomore Chris Albanese.

Finally, the last gym class is APC. Advanced Physical Conditioning (APC) is a class that is all about getting muscles stronger. This class, taught by teacher Ben Geffert is strictly a weight lifting class that takes place in the weight room. According to sophomore Mekhi Mitchell, having a gym class makes the day more exciting and it gives him a break from working in all of his other classes.

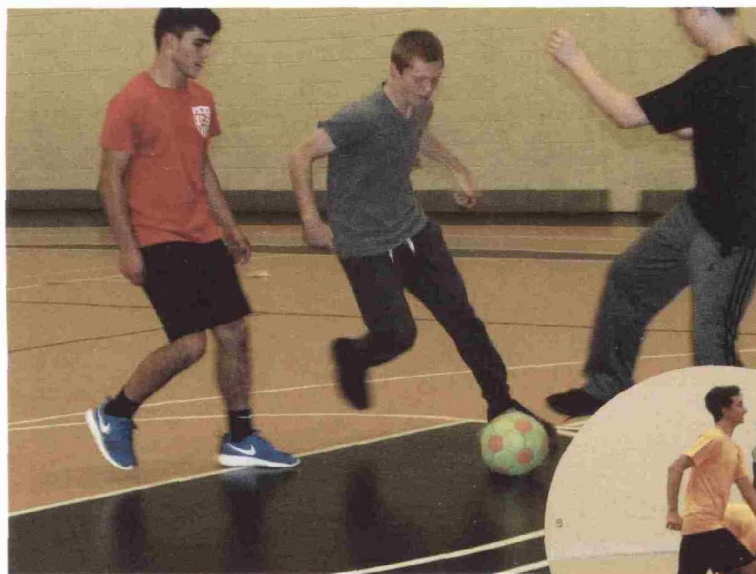
Besides just playing around in the gym, there is also a Health and Awareness class that students can take. The class taught by Mike Brown showed students how the human body works and what could be done to make the body better.

All four gym classes did many different activities whether it was sports that were enjoyable to most students, exercises that helped keep the students in shape and get muscle tone, or just learning about the human body. The four classes helped students with their health.

"Gym class makes the day more exciting and it gives me a break from working in all of my other classes, it's a good way to release my energy," said sophomore Mekhi Mitchell



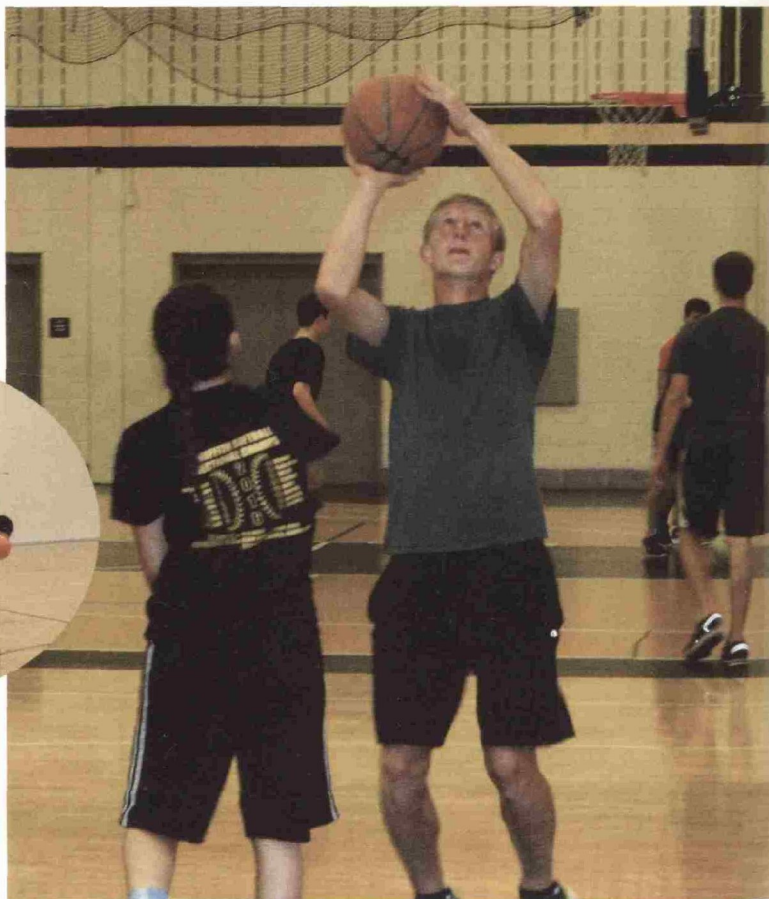
Jacob Damski, 11



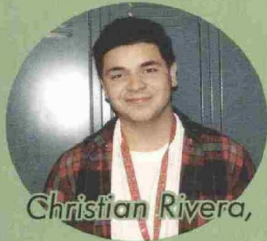
In team sports 7th hour class, sophomore Taylor Bliss, junior George Jones, and senior Luke Broelmann are practicing their soccer skills. "Soccer is one of my favorite sports and whenever I get the chance to play it, I take advantage," said Bliss.

Cole Bocock, 11

Thursday in the main gym, junior Zachary Fisch tries his hardest to make the basket over a defender. "Gym is a class that I think everyone should have on their schedule. It is a great way to enjoy yourself," said Fisch.



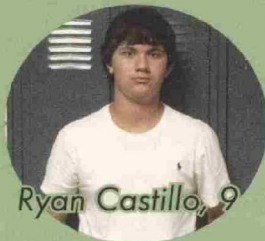
PE vs. Team Sports



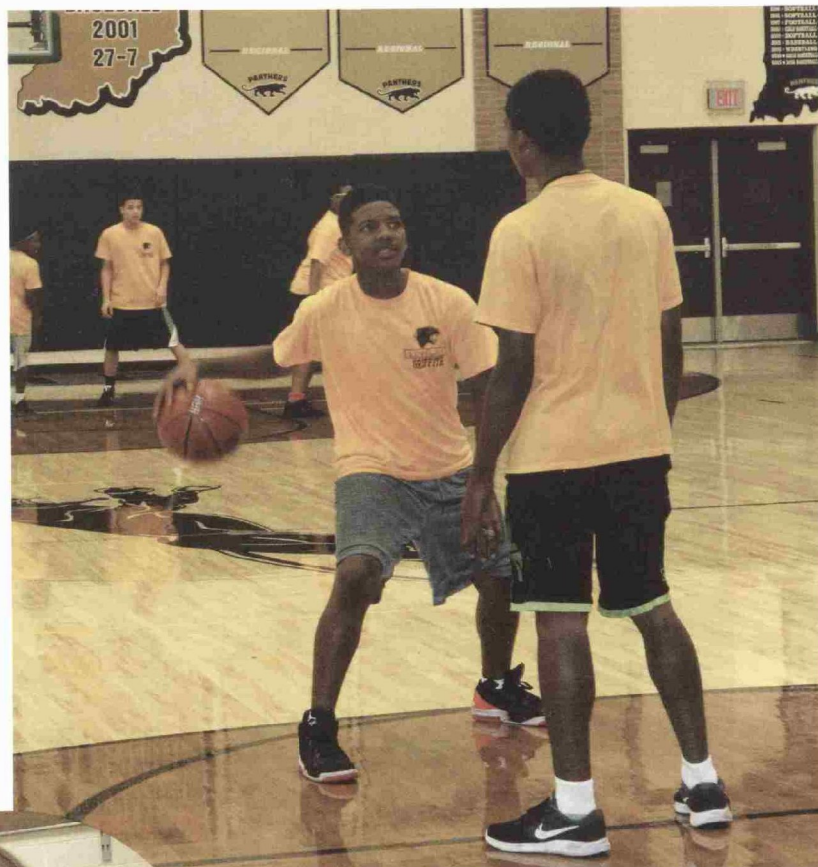
Christian Rivera, 11

"Team sports is a lot more of actually going against one another rather than PE. Also, team sports is more of a physical class because there are more boys than girls in team sports. When I took PE it was not as competitive," said Rivera.

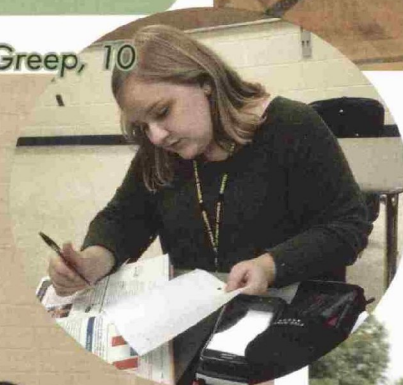
"Gym, in my opinion, is a pretty awesome class. Some people say that PE is not a good class because we do the same thing every week, but I like it because it's an active class and I get to enjoy myself with my friends," said Castillo.



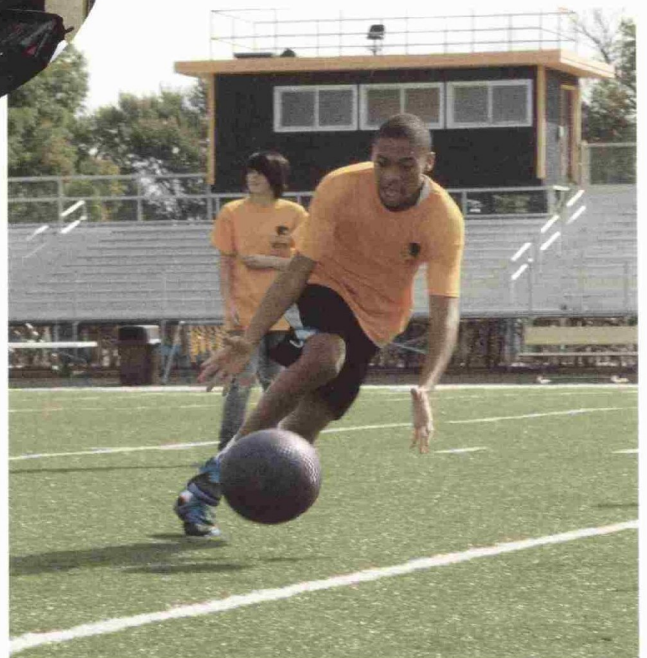
Ryan Castillo, 9



Haley Greep, 10

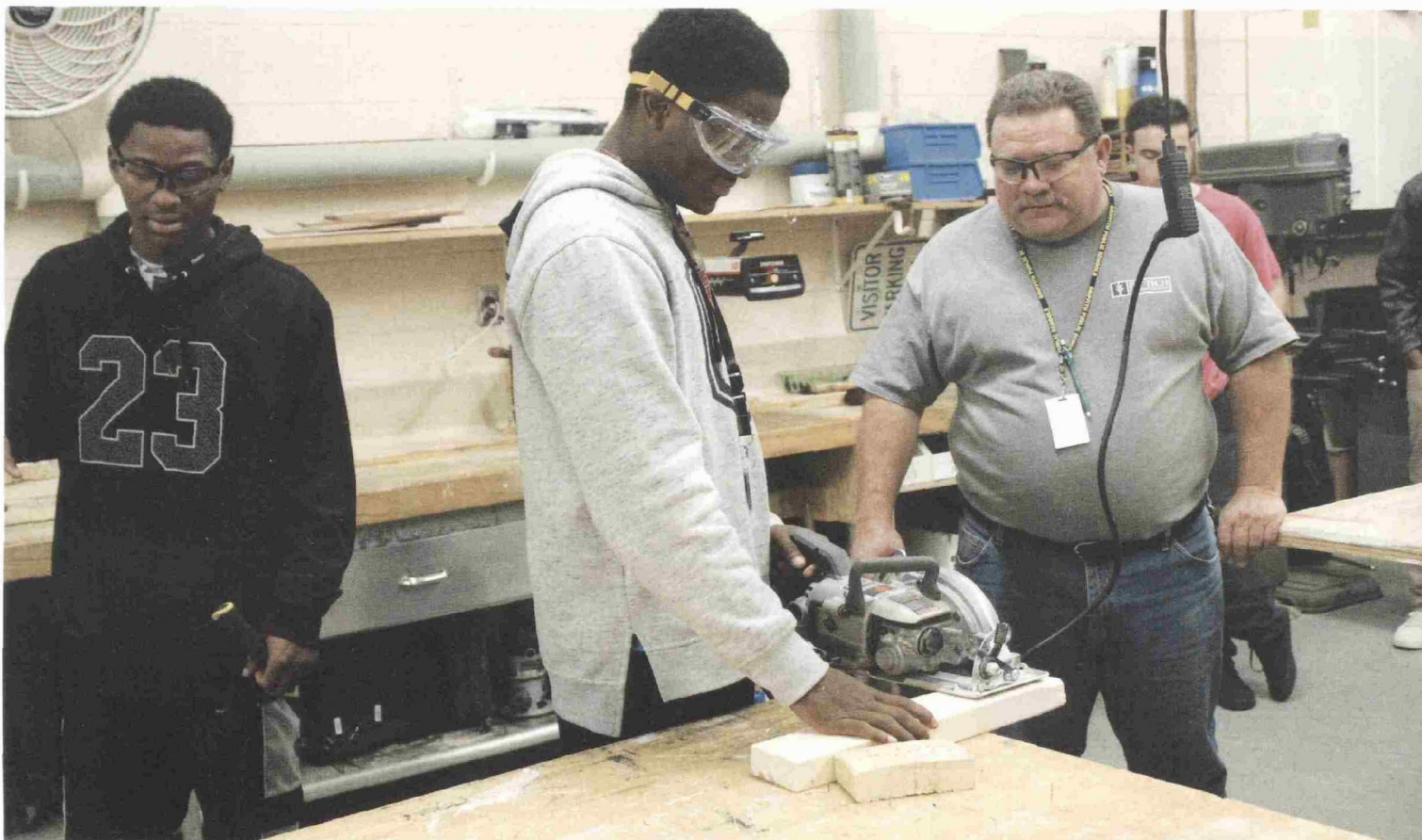


Having an awesome time in the main gym, freshman Alex Retic shows off his ball handling skills. "Gym is my favorite class because of all the sports we play and it gives me a break from sitting in a desk all day," said Retic.



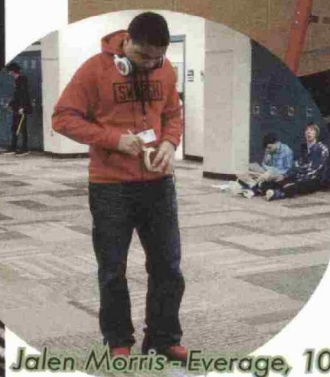
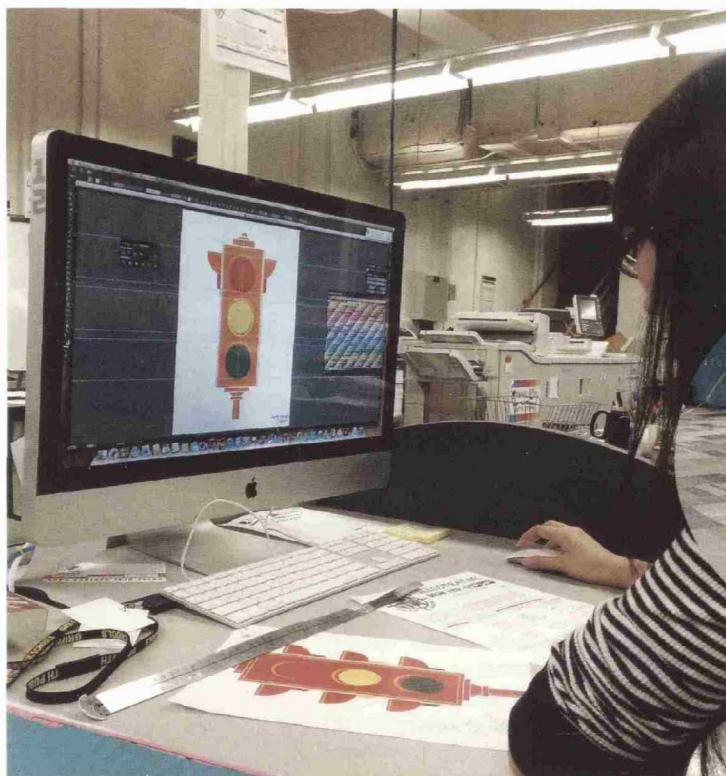
Leaping into the air sophomore Mateo Lopez catches a ball thrown by an opponent. "A lot of people say that I have 'division one defense' and when I play hard in gym, people see how good I am," said Lopez.

Taking advantage of the weather, freshman Oshawn Lee runs hard to catch the ball outside on the turf football field. "I plan on taking a gym class all four years of high school because it is very enjoyable," said Lee.



Slicing wood with an electric saw, junior Tayvien Walker is supervised by construction teacher Doug Sowash for a house building project. "I like when we go down to the workshop and when we use the power tools," said Walker.

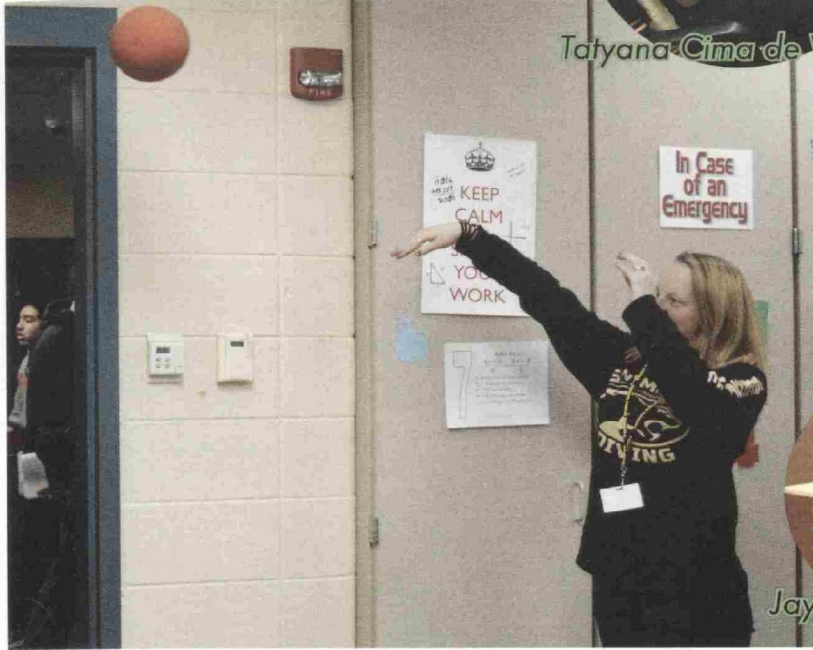
At the Area Career Center, senior Jenny Gong works on her stoplight graphic design project. "I do plan on majoring in graphic design in college. I like to design on computers and when I heard about the course option at ACC I wanted to take it," said Gong.



Jalen Morris - Everage, 10

Alongside his classmates, junior Thomas McCarthy adds extra measures to a baseball dugout wall. "We all had unique jobs and parts of the wall that we tended to, and we helped each other along the way. I really enjoyed this outdoor project," said McCarthy.

Playing "Math Basketball" in Sarah Cohen's Geometry Honors class, freshman Haylie Keene tosses a ball into the air. "I like playing 'Math Basketball' in Ms. Cohen's room because she offers extra credit if you make the shot from the 3 point line," said Keene.



Tatyana Cima de Villa, 12



Jaylene Valdivia, 11

In preparation for one of Sara Novak's Culinary III labs, juniors Trinity Austin and Islam Amara, alongside senior Megan Miller, place gloves on their hands. "We learn new things about foods and everyone gets along," said Amara.

@ TIME FOR OPTIONS

by: Kylee Taylor and Ryan Jelenski

Students walked through the same halls to get to their classes five days a week, some dreading the next class that they are about to attend, and others thrilled for what is in store. These students learn and are encouraged to participate in many ways. Teachers offered multiple opportunities to not learn the traditional route of paper, pencil, and book. Several teachers such as math teacher Sarah Cohen incorporated games like "Math Basketball" into their lesson plans to allow their students to be excited about math.

Other teachers use "Math XL" to help their students learn. "It [Math XL] helped me during the test and made me feel comfortable with the material," said freshman Catherine Brzycki.

Students are also allowed to go to the Area Career Center (ACC). At the ACC, students could enroll in courses within a specific field in which they may want to pursue in the future. The ACC is not just a learning experience but it also incorporated preparing for adulthood when students have a job.

"The ACC requires us to get up early so that we can

catch the bus, but it's worth it. It's not like any other learning experience," said junior Tyler Josephson.

ACC also offers course options such as Cosmetology, Culinary and Pastry Arts & Sciences, and Early Childhood Education.

"The ACC requires us to get up early so that we can catch the bus, but it's worth it. It's not like any other learning experience," said junior Tyler Josephson.

Some students chose an alternative route and enrolled in classes that Griffith High School offered for alternative learning such as construction or welding classes. Teachers also have interactive learning with review games.

"When teachers bring in review games, the competition and activities encourage our participation and the information sticks with us," said junior Hannah Ramirez.

In Sara Novak's culinary and baking classes, students participated in labs that required more than just brain power. Students are expected to use skills such as teamwork and ambition to complete the challenge handed to them. From classes like cosmetology to computer science, alternative learning in classes is a change for high school students at GHS that most looked forward to.

gAME TIME

by: Natalie Halley

From that first minute of the first practice, to the last second of the last game, student athletes at Griffith High School gave 100% on and off of the field. Athletes attended optional conditioning, mandatory practices, scrimmages, and games, on top of their homework loads and studying for upcoming tests and quizzes.

"Being a student athlete is very difficult to manage. I was on the volleyball team, and we practiced every day that we didn't have a game. I would have to do homework while watching other teams play, and I would always end up staying up all night finishing my work," said sophomore DayJah Robinson.

The fall brought pride and spirit to the halls of GHS. The varsity football team had their best record in years, finishing the regular season with eight wins and four losses. Griffith alumni, parents, and fans filled the stands on Friday nights to watch the "New Griffith" take the field by storm. The community really came together to become "Panther Strong". This season, our football team made it to the Sectional Championship, and although they did not win the game, the town of Griffith took it as a win nonetheless.

"Our new program has proved a lot of people wrong. We worked hard everyday in order to be the best we possibly could be. Playing varsity as a sophomore was an honor and I'm proud of myself for applying to football and exceeding my own personal goals. The seniors and the coaches really motivated me to play my hardest and challenge myself. They made me a better football player and person," said sophomore Ernest Johnson.

Some athletes were in a sport all year. It was possi-

ble to find a varsity girls' soccer player on the basketball court or a football player on the wrestling mat come December. When it comes to the cheerleaders and Pantherettes, who had been conditioning since early June, their seasons didn't stop until after their competitions in March.

"My teammates and I didn't get any breaks from practices. We've practiced every week since the beginning of June and our season didn't end until after we competed in March. The closer we got to competition, the more we practiced and the harder the practices became. People don't really give the cheerleaders the recognition we deserve even though we work hard all year long," said freshman Varsity cheerleader Andria Johnson.

In the beginning of November, the majority of students and staff, along with the whole city of Chicago, celebrated a big win when the Chicago Cubs beat the Cleveland Indians in the 2016 Major League Baseball World Series for the first time in 108 years. On Friday, November 4th in Wrigleyville, Cubs fans everywhere watched the parade go down Grant Street. The Cubs Parade ranked as the 7th largest gathering in the history of the world.

"I am so grateful and lucky to have been apart of history. The energy at the parade was strictly happiness, and you could feel it in the crowd. Everyone was genuinely ecstatic. People were climbing the light posts and jumping back into the crowd. It was insane but it was the perfect day for a Cubs fan. It is amazing that our team brought home the win, and that our city came together to celebrate something so memorable," said junior Morgan Ladendorf.

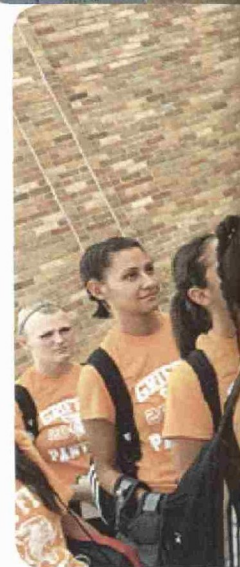
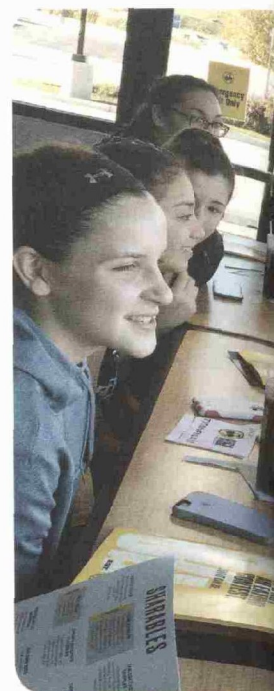
"I would have to do homework while watching other teams play, and I would always end up staying up all night finishing my work," said sophomore DayJah Robinson.



Taking the field side by side, the varsity football players hoped for another victory. "We had the best season we had in a while. We didn't expect to make it as far as we did, and it was a memorable last season with my brothers," said senior Trevor Losiniecki.



With mud and murky water covering her legs, senior Alyssa Schreiber pushed herself to her limit. "Running cross country took a lot of hard work and determination, but it was worth it in the end," said Schreiber.



Girls Basketball Team



Varsity Cheerleaders



Girls Soccer Team



Jacob Damski, 11



Sarah Thomas, 9 &
Erica Dross, 10

Before girls' swim sectionals, sophomores Skylar Zurek and Macie Miller take a ten minute ice bath. "The ice bath contracted my muscles so there was not as much lactic acid," said Zurek.

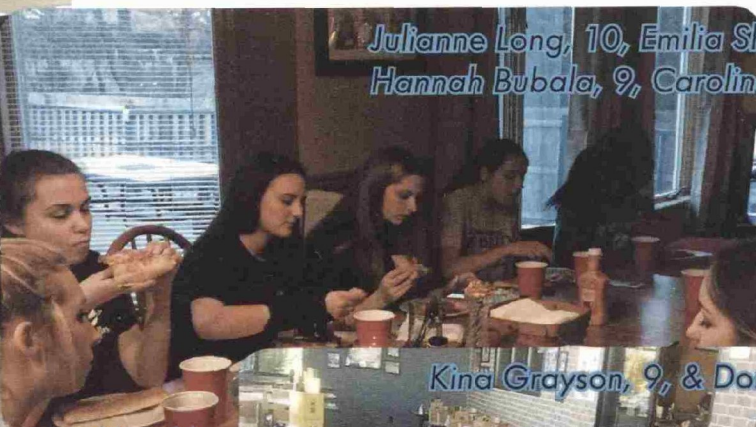
Throwing their teammate, junior Jared Cottrell, into an inflatable water slide, Griffith's football team enjoys their 2016 summer picnic. "My teammates were about to throw me in and all I could think was, 'oh no'," said Cottrell.



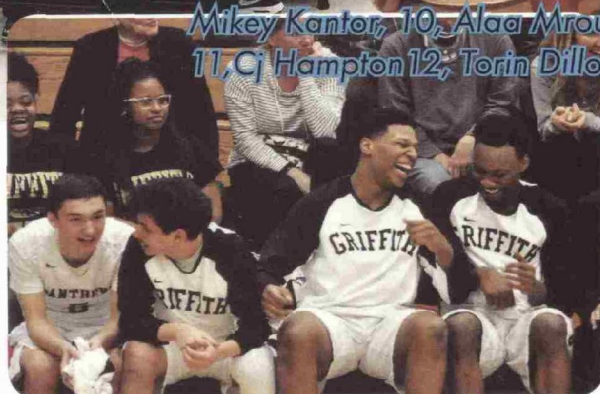
Joseph Soy, 12, Jorge Robinson, 12,
Tayvien Walker, 11, Isaiah Ramirez, 12



Julianne Long, 10, Emilia Shapiro, 9,
Hannah Bubala, 9, Caroline Brown, 9



Mikey Kantor, 10, Alaa Mroueh,
11, Cj Hampton 12, Torin Dillon, 12



Kina Grayson, 9, & Dominique Reed, 9





QUALITY TIME

by: Kylee Taylor

Being a part of a team to most was more than just seeing and practicing with your teammates on a daily basis at the same time every day. When students form bonds as teammates, sometimes these bonds are greater than just regular friendships. Students went out of their way to spend time with their teammates outside of practice or school. Team bonding is a way for students on the team to truly understand each other as individuals. People could find out similar interests and passions while having a blast at someone's house or a swim meet.

"Team bonding is important because you have to get close with your teammates in order to work well. Especially in relays because it builds trust between all of us," said freshman Sarah Thomas.

Some teams have traditions before each meet/match/game/competition. Teams, like the Pantherettes, have pasta nights before they compete, and they will pray right before every game or competition. The football team rented out Wasdworth Elementary's Cheever Park for the day. They rented an

inflatable, water slide and had a barbecue.

"My favorite team bonding moment this year is just being with each other as a team. A tradition that the swim guys do is that we bleach our hair. It was cool to carry on the tradition," said freshman Gabe Cruz.

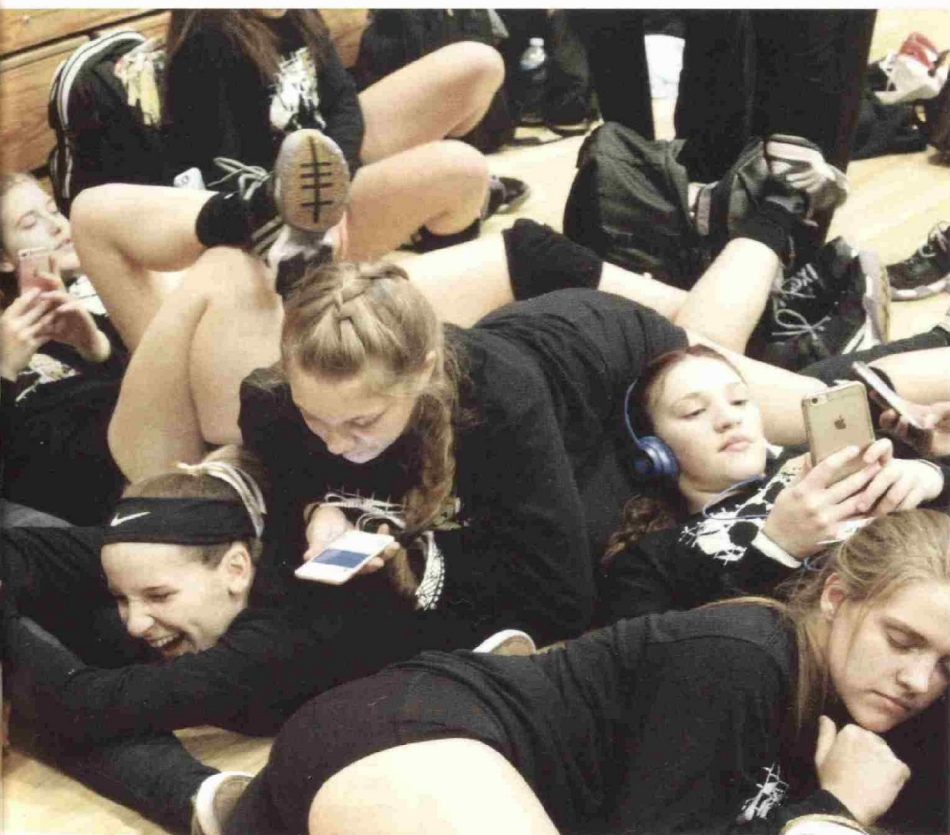
Every year the night before Purdue Band Camp, the Griffith Colors gets together at someone's house. They watch movies, do each other's hair and makeup, and make french toast.

Team bonding does not just occur outside of school, but also on the bus on the way to sporting events.

The boys' soccer team went to Mason, Ohio for a tournament. Some of the team went to a Cincinnati Reds baseball game, went out to eat at several different restaurants, or they stayed at the hotel and swam in the pool.

Teams at GHS spent time together in several different ways. Much time was spent together during practice, to the point where most consider each other family. Others made it a point to form close bonds with their teammates that might even last a lifetime.

"Team bonding is important because you have to get close with your teammates in order to work well," said freshman Sarah Thomas.



Sleeping before one of her basketball games, Kamryn Pulliman lounges around with her teammates. "We were pretty cold and the floor was uncomfortable," said Pulliman.



Before a sectional volleyball game, the girls' volleyball team bonds over sleeping in the main gym. Freshman Briah Strezo laughs while senior Abigail Strauch lies on top of her. "I was not expecting her to lie on top of me," said Strezo.

TIME FOR KICKOFF

by: Julianne Long

"Restoring the Roar" is a phrase that puts the 2016 football season in a nutshell. The Griffith Panthers took on constant doubt and disbelief this season, but nothing could get in their way.

The first two games were played at home. After a dramatic loss against Michigan City, the Panthers came back and defeated Wheeler.

After losing to Hobart, the Panthers prepared for one of the biggest games of the year, Lowell. "When we beat Lowell, I didn't even know how to feel. That was definitely my favorite game of the season," said senior Joey Martoccio.

The Lowell game was only the beginning. Following this game, the Panthers beat Kankakee Valley, Munster, Highland, and Andean, winning the conference. "At first I couldn't believe it, still can't. We've been working so hard in the offseason, that we deserved it. Everyone doubts us which makes us want to prove them wrong. We have worked so hard to get to this spot, but in the end it's the same job every Friday and that job is to win," said senior Isaiah Allen.

The Panthers prepared for sectionals. After winning the first game, and the second game, the Panthers ended their season. "We never make it that far but this year we did and we beat the team no one thought we could. The practice we hated in the offseason paid off and winning the second game with my brothers meant everything," said junior Adonise McCully.

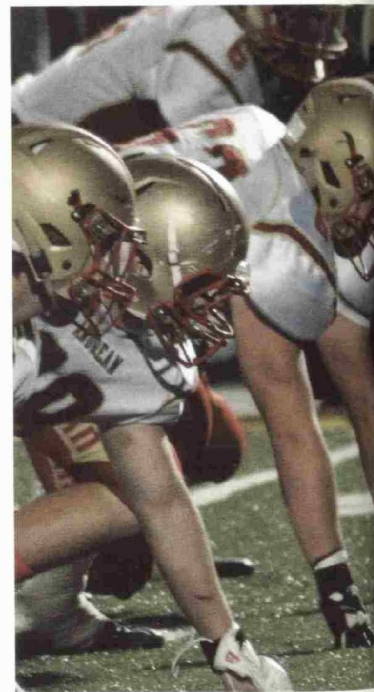
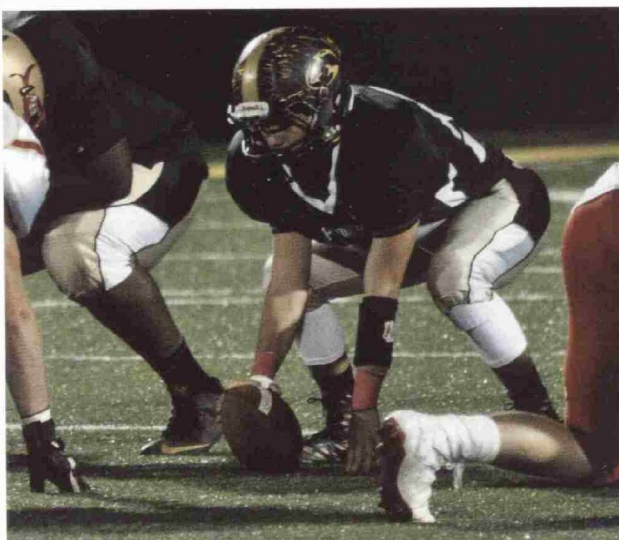
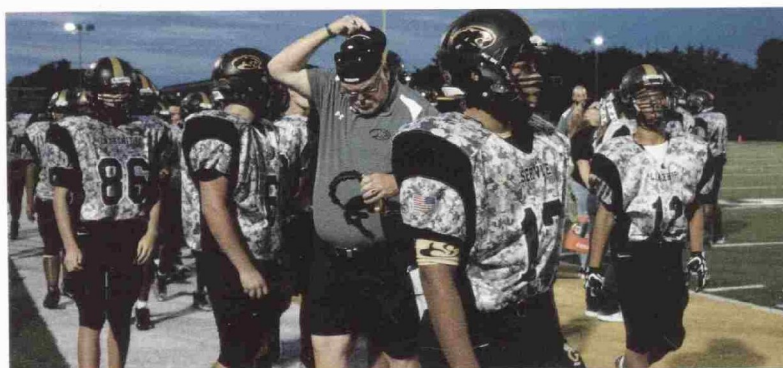
"You either play to get hurt or you play to win. You just have to have a love for the game," said junior Kadafi Coleman.

"Football is a tough game. You either play to get hurt or you play to win. You just have to have a love for the game. If you are too soft, you get hurt. If you get hurt, you can't play. I inspire myself because I know that no matter how good I am, or how good people tell me I am, I can always be better. I just have to get my name out there in the world," said junior Kadafi Coleman.

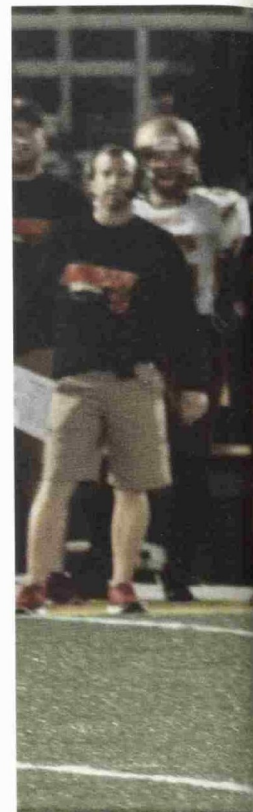
**Michael Villalobos, 12
& Cole Cervantes, 10**

The Griffith Panthers stay motivated on the sidelines while wearing their National Guard jerseys. They borrowed these jerseys for one week against Lowell, where they won 19-9.

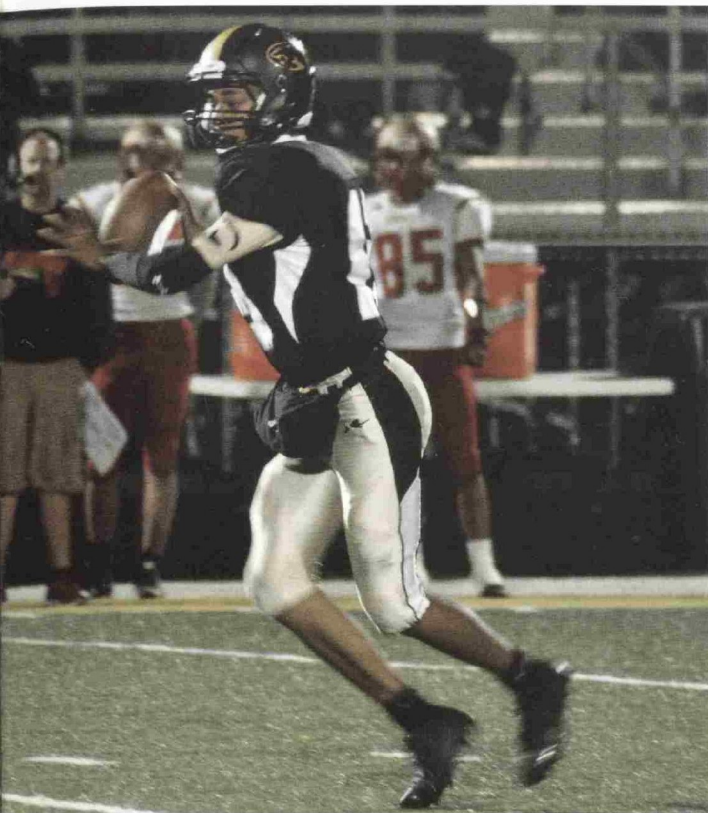
On the offensive line, senior Norberto Nunez blocks the opponent. "After we won the Wheeler game, it felt great knowing we would be back on track and were able to defeat Andean," said Nunez.



"I felt like we did our job as a team and accomplished our goal by getting the NCC championship," said junior Erik Martinez. Martinez snaps the ball to the quarterback at the Andean game.



Throwing the ball to his teammate, junior quarterback Fredrick Winston plays in the last conference game of the season. "Being quarterback, I control everything. I have a special kind of love for this game and I love being able to lead the team and score touchdowns," said Winston.



"At this game, I felt like I communicated very well with my team and we had an advantage as far as technique. I got most improved this year and this game was a major contribution," said Aaron Harvey on the offensive line.

Varsity



Row 1: Joey Soy, Jessie Miller, Norberto Nunez, Ernest Johnson, Marcus Tucker, Antoine Thompson, Kevin Tillman.
Row 2: Erik Martinez, Matthew Peterson, Xavier Lopez, Jorge Robinson, Jared Cottrell, Anthony Compton, Cole Cervantes, Cesar Valdez
Row 3: Ashley Vera, Trace Robertson, Alec Seberger, Michael Villobos, Kevin Novak, Elijah Faulkner, Josh Peterson, Adrian Rodriguez, Ryan Davenport, Damian Villalpando, Alicia Schoon.
Row 4: Rafael Valencia, Jaylen Morris-Everet, Adonise McCully, Joshua Miller, No Show, Tayvien Walker, Isaiah Ramirez, Kadafi Coleman, Trevor Losiniecki, Rayshon Young, Mark Whitlock.
Row 5: Matthew Dildine, Andrew Davenport, Cameron Crowe, Alante Fortier, Isaiah Allen, Aaron Harvey, Zach Shelley, Cameron Gordon, Fredrick Winston, Joey Martoccio, Jeremy Johnson.
Row 6: Mike Brown, Adam Musielak, Mark Reid Jr., Mark Reid Sr., Ben Geffert, Pat Janke.

Opponent:

Score:

Michigan City	48-21
Wheeler	35-14
Hobart	7-22
Lowell	19-9
K.V.	13-12
Munster	24-21
Highland	24-6
Andrean	21-13
E.C.	35-15

Sectionals:

John Glenn	48-7
Rensselaer	28-21
Mishawaka Marian	14-49

Varsity



Row 1: Gardenia Gonzalez, Emily Keck, Melanie Vera, Michelle Beck, Jackie Bobos, Megan Miller
Row 2: Lilyana Salazar, April Mendoza, Macie Miller, Bridget Beck, Breanna Hamilton, Veronica Matthews, Aary Cano
Row 3: Coach Glenn, Nina Stosic, Marrisra Walter, Bella Maglish, Rachel Kruhaj, Jenna Dye, Hannah Ramirez, Coach Don

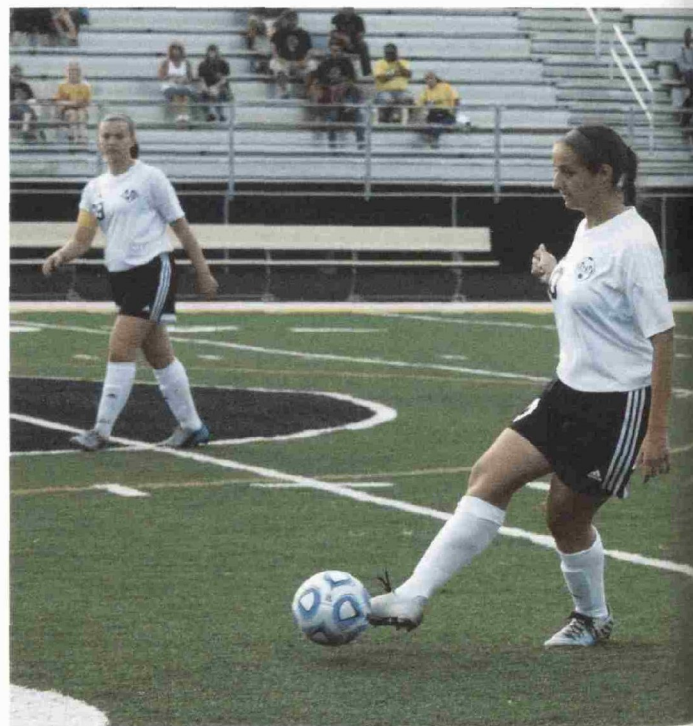
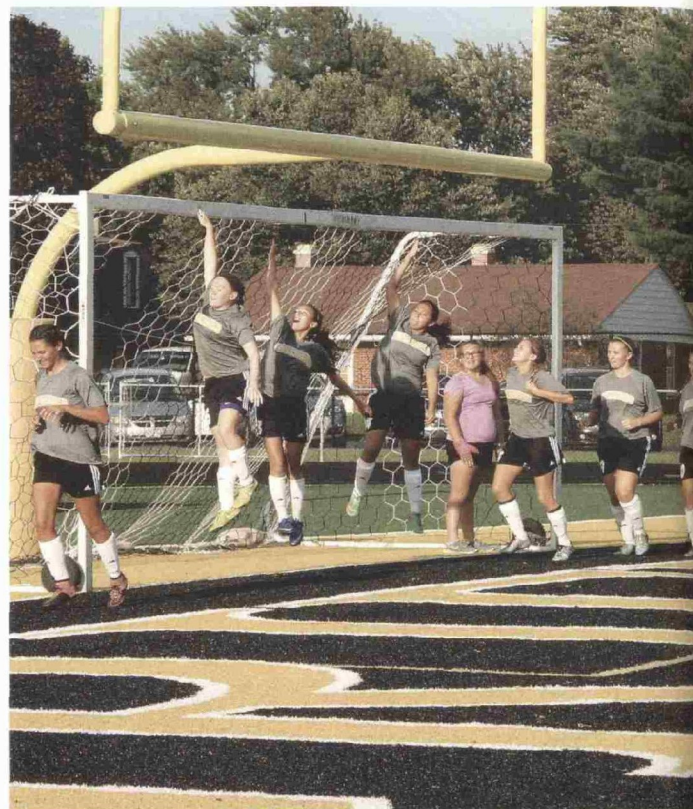
Opponent: Score:

Lake Central	0-3
Hobart	8-1
Hanover Central	7-0
Andrean	2-3
Wheeler	2-1
Bishop Noll	1-0
Munster	1-3
Kankakee Valley	1-0
Highland	1-3
Lowell	4-3
Gavit	9-0
Morton	9-0
Kouts	3-0
Chesterton	0-1



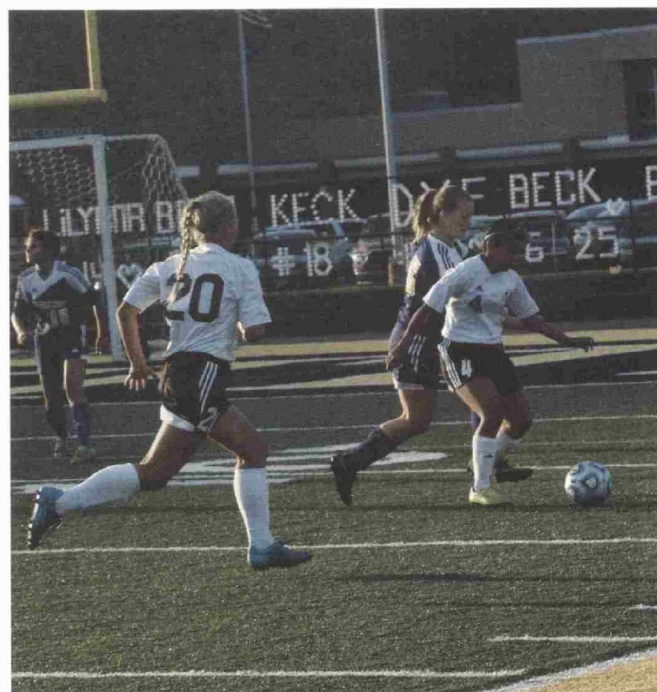
Row 1: Gardenia Gonzalez, Tyra Gonzalez, Anastasia Hernandez, Sara Mehisen, Aary Cano, Diana Muro, Anabel Castellano, Tannor Steffen
Row 2: Coach Glenn, Macie Miller, Veronica Matthews, Marrisra Walter, Hannah Ramirez, Andrea Hudiczius, Coach Don

Preparing for the team's first home game, senior Melanie Vera tries to touch the top post of the goal. "We always hit the crossbar before our games to get ready to play," said Vera.



Gracefully playing, sophomore Nina Stosic moves the ball out of the defensive line. "Being on varsity helped me come out of my shell because the girls are so inviting and amusing," said Stosic.

With a smile on her face, senior Bridget Beck finishes her walk down the field with her parents on senior night. "It was surreal realizing I was finally a senior," said Beck.



In order to keep possession of the ball, senior Gardenia Gonzalez shields away her opponent. "My motto is strive for your best and always play until the whistle," said Gonzalez.



OUR GAME

by: Lilyana Salazar

"Senior year soccer had a bittersweet end, but I have made friends to last a lifetime. I'm so proud of all the girls, they are what you call a true family," said senior Michelle Beck.

The 2016 girls soccer season can be summed up with three words: laughs, tears, and diligence. In order to choose the new head coach position, conditioning was pushed back to March as opposed to other years. The girls were in for a treat with the coach's scheduled weight room time, running, and scrimmaging. Glenn Maglish was chosen for the varsity head coach position.

During the summer, practices were changed to five days a week for two hours at the turf or the practice field. The annual tournament was replaced with scrimmages with other schools such as Marquette, Crown Point, and Portage.

Although numbers were short, the girls were able to have two teams, JV and varsity. The girls dealt with as many as three games in one week. This challenged the girls mentally as well as physically.

"I have made friends to last a lifetime. I'm so proud of all the girls, they are what you call a true family," said senior Michelle Beck.

The season was filled with far more pasta nights and team bonding than in the previous years. Pasta nights were held at the teams' houses with the help of the parents. This is different from last years' being held at the YMCA. Bonding included watching movies in the team's footie pajamas, swimming, throwing water balloons, and "decorating" each of the coaches houses.

The girls drew Lake Central as their first sectional opponent. The game went into overtime, but the score did not fall in favor of the Lady Panthers. The girls ended their season with a record of 9-5, and tied 3rd in conference with KV.

The team said goodbye to nine of their teammates this year and one of their coaches. "We all work really well together and it had a positive effect in how we played. I'm excited to be the first girls team to play in the new conference next year," said junior Hannah Ramirez.

Bella Maglish, 12



KICKING TIME

by: Haley Dixon

The boys started their indoor conditioning in January until the beginning of June everyday, except for Sundays. The boys worked hard and practiced after school to get in shape. "The practices were difficult but it was great to see my brothers everyday, and it also helped us to improve our skills for a better season," said junior Shadi Haddad. Starting in July, the boys had a tournament in Mason, Ohio and the team went undefeated throughout the whole tournament. They went to Lafayette, Indiana and made it to the finals.

With the hard work over the summer, they started off their season with a win against Hebron. "It felt phenomenal to win our first game and I was looking forward to the rest of the upcoming season," said sophomore Marko Stosic.

Although they lost their next few games, they came back and won against Bishop Noll 3-1. "Coming back winning against Bishop Noll and then winning our games after that brought up our momentum and got us prepared for sectionals," said junior Justin Moyo.

All of the boys really bonded together as a team and

everyone got along. Never was there a boy on the field whose head was down. The whole team would come to pick that one player up. "The bonding of this team and having practices everyday really brought us closer together and I wouldn't want to be apart of any other team," said junior Zach Fisch.

"My favorite memory of the season was the celebration bus rides on the way back home after we won our game," said sophomore Diego Sanchez.

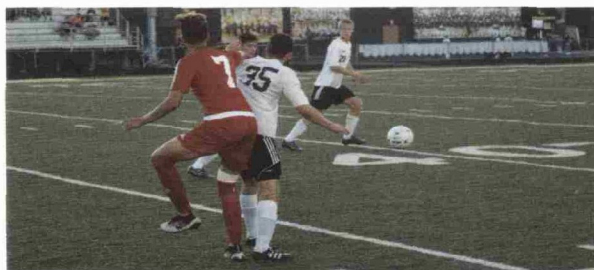
The boys ended their season with three wins. The team had a bad slump in mid-season losing a few games but they came back showing those other teams what they are really made of when they won the last game. "Coming back and being able to play after my ankle injury definitely felt great, especially since we won our last few games and ended the season on a good note," said senior Matt McNerney.

The team was excited for the wins they had at the end of their season, which was in October.

Diego Sanchez, 10

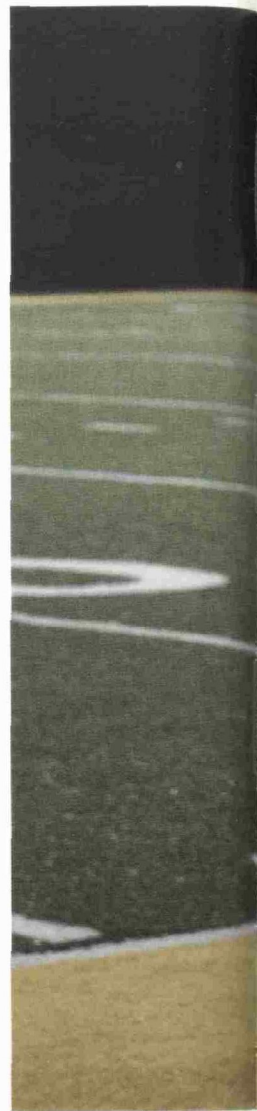
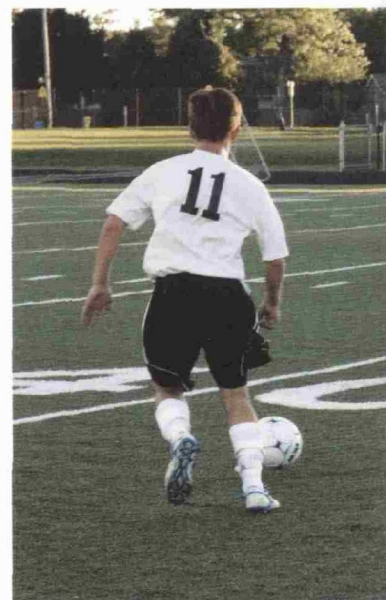


"My favorite part about the team is that I'm able to spend so much time playing with my best friends and being able to play the game I love," said junior Jacob Damski.

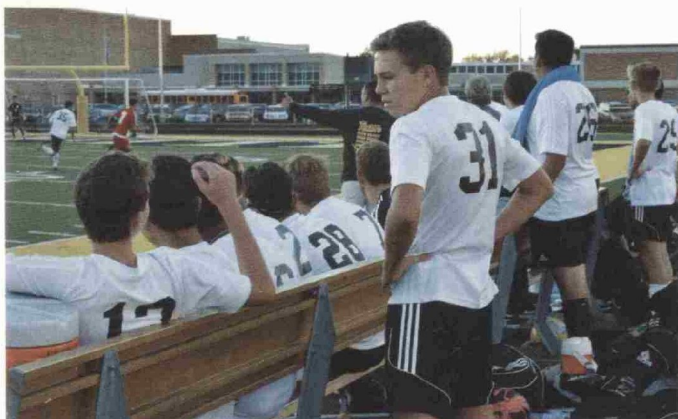
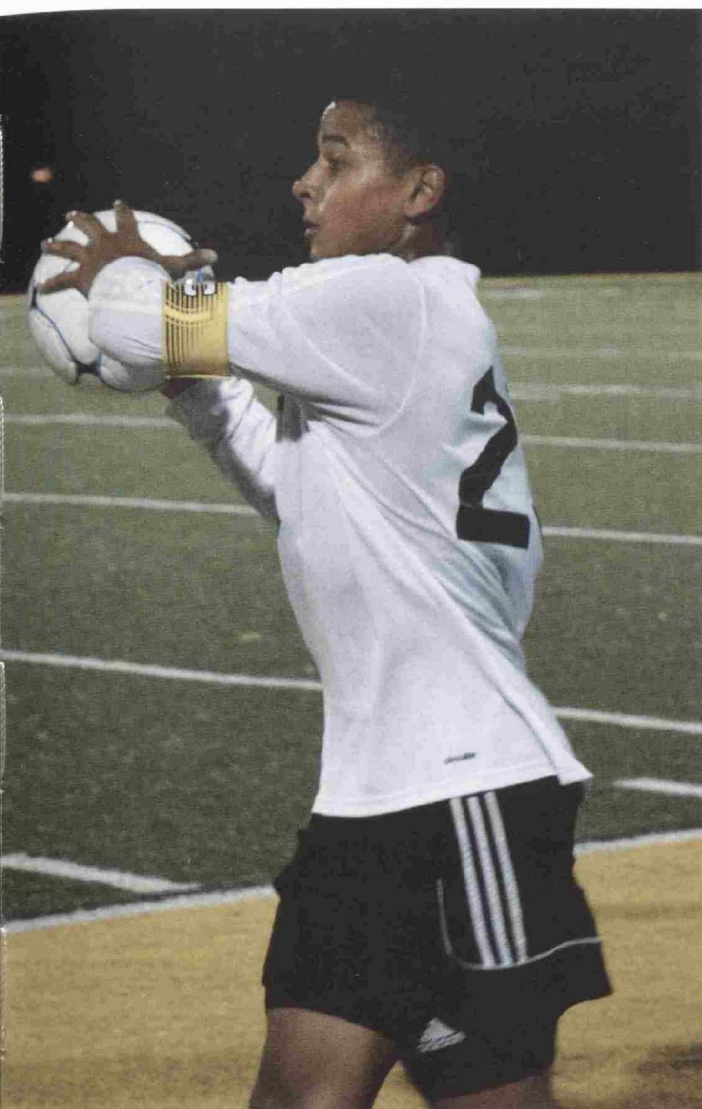


Trying to steal the ball from the other team, junior Patrick Land has a certain technique. "I try to get in front of my opponent and kick the ball away from them," said Land

Kicking the ball, sophomore Will Carroll is on the field. "I want to improve my communication while playing and make our teams chemistry stronger so we can work better as a team," said Carroll.



While throwing in the ball, senior Keith Hernandez puts in all his effort. "When I throw the ball in I look for Damski or McNerney and put my power behind it," said Hernandez.



With his team, junior Cameron Bobos has a talk about the game. "Working hard everyday and having my teammates and coaches pushing me has made me the player I am today," said Bobos.

Varsity



Row 1: Shadi Haddad, Matthew Alvarez, Jason Miller, Justin Moyo, Keith Hernandez, Will Carroll

Row 2: Matt McNerney, Pedro Guerrero, Jacob Damski, Shawn Falstrom, Luke Broelmann, Cameron Bobos, Diego Sanchez, Patrick Land

Row 3: Ronald Knestrict, Cameron Starks, Marko Stolic, Zach Fisch, Jake Diamond, Cris Haddock, Castulo Perez, Wally Kudyba

Opponent:

Score:

Hebron

3-2

Highland

1-3

Morton

0-3

Hobart

3-0

Portage

1-5

Andean

1-2

East Chicago

2-2

Munster

0-1

Michigan City

2-2

Kankakee Valley

1-2

Bishop Noll

3-1

Lowell

1-2

Clark

1-0

Gavit

6-0

Wheeler

2-0

JV



Row 1: Jacob Mis, Carlos Lopez, Josh Bacon, Josh Miller, Taylor Bliss, Chase Cozmanoff, Micah Alvarez

Row 2: Andrew Masters, Jacob Rothchild, Austin Shelton, Kyle Feilds, Matthew Pierson, Santiago Muro, Shawn Graham, Trenton Pulliam

Row 3: Ronald Knestrict, John Lawson, Jonathon Vasilak, Christian Schafer, Scott Lesczynski, Saul Valencia, Danny Escorza, Noah Eldrege, Wally Kudyba

Varsity



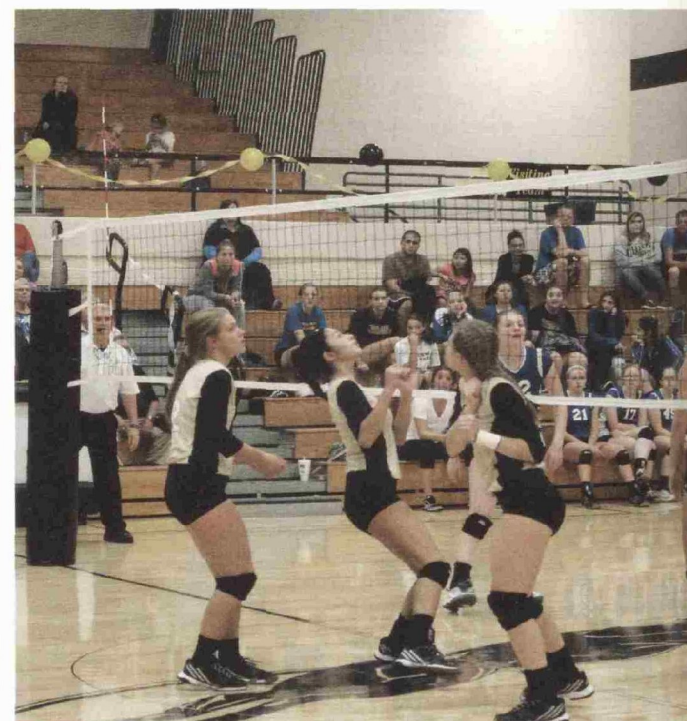
Row 1: Abigail Strauch, Allison Biancardi, Erica Ward, Ali Schoon, Leah Dye
Row 2: Kiara Miller, Briah Strezo, Skylar Davenport, Jenna Brown, Megan Madrigal, Avery Seberger, Kym Roberts, Katie Kavandugh

Opponent:

Score:

Merrillville	1-3
Bowman	3-0
Munster	0-3
EC Central	3-0
Andean	0-3
Hobart	0-3
Morton	2-3
Hammond	2-3
Highland	0-3
Kankakee Valley	1-3
Lowell	0-3
Hanover Central	0-3
Munster	0-3
Andean	0-3
Gavit	1-3
Hobart	0-3
Wheeler	0-3
Highland	0-3
Kankakee Valley	0-3
Lowell	0-3
Bishop Noll	0-3

While in her position, senior Megan Madrigal waits to block the ball when it is returned. "I love the intensity and excitement of the game while we're playing," said Madrigal.



After Griffith sends the ball over, junior Ali Schoon gets ready to be in her defensive position. "It was a great opportunity to play with the seniors and learn from them," said Schoon.

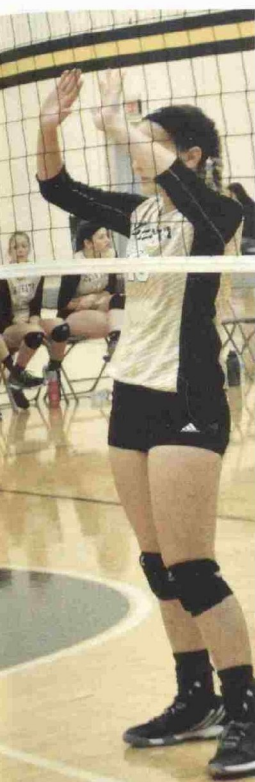
JV



Row 1: Jessica Lopez, Taylor Hill, Allison Biancardi, Christina Ahlquist, Lena Mansour, Jill Carroll
Row 2: Katie Kavandugh, Ali Schoon, Mackenzie Olsen, Abbegael Pianti, Avery Seberger, Taylor Little, Monica Ross

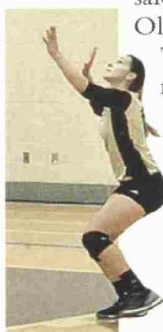
SERVING TIME

by: Vanessa Bullion



The volleyball season began with conditioning at the end of April 2016. Conditioning was after school on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:30. Conditioning went into the summer until the season started with the first game that was in the first week of school. The girls did plenty of things to stay in shape, they did bleachers, ran the track, and practiced many drills during this time. "Conditioning was definitely tiring, but it got us in shape, and helped us during the season so it was worth all the hard work and dedication we put in,"

said sophomore Mackenzie Olsen.



The girls incorporated a new aspect to team bonding this year. The girls started "big sis, little sis" this season. An upperclassman was paired with an underclassman for this. For each home game the girls would exchange a small

Briah Strezo, 9

gift, ranging from notes to snacks or

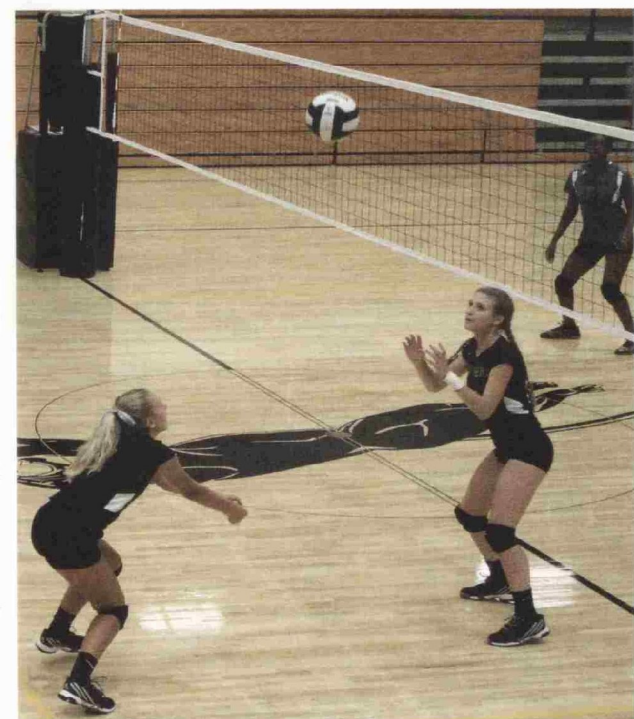
gatorades. "I liked that this increased the team bonding and how everyone got along this year and also that we got a treat before the games," said sophomore Abbigael Piunti.

There were a total of three teams, as previous years. This year they had a C team rather than a freshman team, along with junior varsity and varsity.

"I liked that 'big sis, little sis' increased our team bonding and how everybody got along this year," said sophomore Abbigael Piunti.

The girls practiced hard and took games more seriously. When there wasn't a game, the girls would practice after school. The girls would work hard each practice that would consist of running a mile while being timed, fundamentals, and plenty of drills.

The teams had only one returning coach along with two new ones. Returning coach, Kym Roberts, instructed the varsity team this year. new coach, Katie Kavandugh, taught junior varsity. Also, new coach, Margie Banach, trained the C team. "Coach Katie and Coach Margie were a good edition to the team, they helped us learn a lot of things and showed us different drills from last year," said sophomore Jenna Brown.

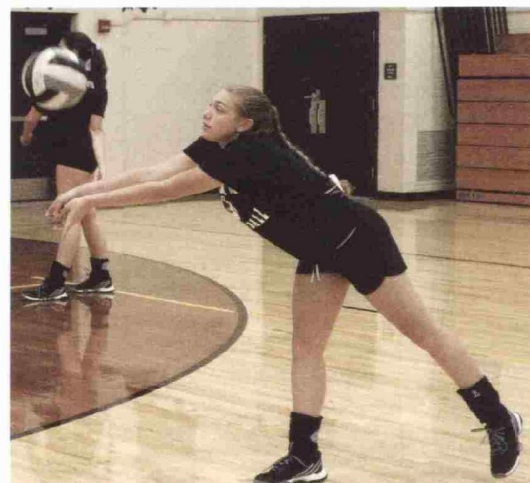


While waiting for her teammate to pass the ball, sophomore Christina Ahlquist is ready to set the ball. "I enjoy setting because it makes me feel like a leader," said Ahlquist.



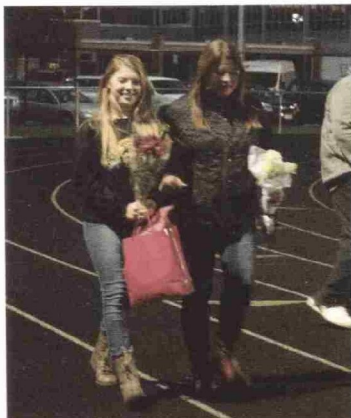
Passing the ball to her partner, senior Abigail Strauch focuses on having good structure. "We all worked hard to try and win a sectional title, but it just didn't work in our favor," said Strauch.

Teaming up before going back onto the court, the JV team listens to their coach. "Coach Katie always gives us a good pep talk in between sets," said sophomore Avery Seberger.



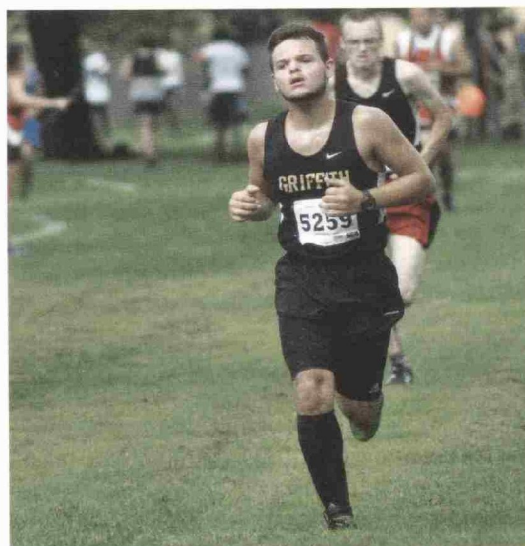


A night that every athlete waits for is under way for senior Alyssa Schreiber. "It was very exciting walking out but it was sad seeing us all together for our last home game," said Schreiber.



Preparing to run with his team, junior Thomas Perez and his teammates get focused on what they need to do. "I always try to focus on myself and not anybody else when I run at the meets," said Perez.

Pushing past his limits, junior Zech Winchester races to the finish line to earn a quality finish. "I've done cross country since I was in middle school to help get in shape for the military," said Winchester.



beat THE CLOCK

by: Jake Collins

When it comes to cross country, speed isn't the only thing a runner needs to be successful. According to sophomore Matthew Plopper, endurance is a huge factor in cross country. "You can be the fastest runner in the world, but if you do not have endurance the chances at a quality finish are very slim." Cross country mentally challenges all students in the sport. The students have to push past their limits if they want to be successful and make it far in the playoffs.

Almost everyday after school, practices were held in the fieldhouse.

"You can be the fastest runner in the world but if you don't have endurance, the chances at a quality finish are very slim," said sophomore Matthew Plopper.



Raquel Renton, 12

The runners trained and worked hard. For cross country conditioning, the runners ran all over the field house, whether it was running up and down the stairs, taking laps around the indoor or outdoor track, or just running back and forth down the hallway. "All of the hard work that we put into practice

and conditioning made me a better runner," said junior Khuslen Solongo. Without hard work, the endurance needed for the sport would not all be there for the runners.

Not all of the money raised for the sport comes out of the pockets of the runners parents. The runners found a way to help earn money. Every Friday night at the home football games, some of the runners walked around with tickets and a bucket for a 50/50 raffle that helped with the costs for cross country.

At sectionals on October 8th, the whole girls team advanced to regionals. On the other hand, the boys only had two advancers, junior Thomas Perez and senior Zack Keil. At regionals the following week, juniors Trinity Austin and Thomas Perez made it to semi-state at New

Prairie. Perez was knocked out at semi-state but Austin, for the 3rd straight year, made it to state at Indiana State University on October 29th. Austin finished 34th in the state finals. When the post-season came to an end, the 2016 cross country season was finished.





A three-time state finalist, junior Trinity Austin tries her best to make a name for herself, "I was convinced to do cross country by my sister when I was younger and ever since I've enjoyed it so much," said Austin.

Edge to edge at the face of the finish line, sophomore Myles Taylor runs his hardest to try and beat an opponent from Whiting High School, "I plan to do cross country the rest of my high school years because I enjoy running and competition," said Taylor.



Varsity



Row 1: Alyssa Schreiber, Raquel Renton, Molly Mills
Row 2: James Smith, James Roberts, Lyanna Obregon, Dara Meece , Trinity Austin, Leslie Leon, Zech Winchester
Row 3: Andrew Garcia , Thomas Perez, Matthew Plopper, Milan Odufuye , Matthew Thomas, Myles Taylor, Khuslen Solongo

Opponent:

Score:

Gavit Invite
 Lowell Invite
 New Prairie
 Morton, ECC - Thornridge
 Highland Invite

Girls 8th, Boys 11th
Girls 14th, Boys 14th
Girls 20th, Boys 11th
Girls 1st, Boys 3rd
Girls 7th, Boys 11th

Conference

Girls 6th, Boys 6th

Sectionals
 Regionals

Girls 4th, Boys 6th
Girls 9th

Semi-State

Trinity Austin 11th, Thomas Perez 136th

State

Trinity Austin 34th



Needing the motivation from his teammates, sophomore Richard Damron sprints to the finish line, "Our team is a family and we always find ways to support each other," said Damron.

SWING INTO ACTION

by: Hannah Bubala and Briah Strezo

The girls' golf team had a successful fall season, with a final record of 9-2.

"I feel like our team did well this season. We had a lot of incoming juniors, and the freshmen worked really hard," said freshman Brittany Brummet.

"The team progressed this year since we had more girls. We were able to form a junior varsity and varsity this year. In the past, we only had a varsity team due to the amount of team members," said sophomore Bekka Rex.

On September 24, 2016 at Battle Ground Golf Club, freshman Catherine Bryzcki competed at the girls' gold regional competition, where she scored a 90. Bryzcki didn't attend the competition with her team, but her mentors were there to support her.

"I didn't feel lonely because my coach and my dad were there, and they were giving me beef jerky. Food was my coping mechanism at regionals, and it kept me going," said Bryzcki.

The team advanced to sectionals, where they scored 438. The event took place at Palmira Golf Course in

St. John.

Although the grade levels were very diverse on the team, they came together as friends to play the sport they love. "I really didn't know the people on the team very well when I joined, but they welcomed me in. Now I consider them great friends and I always look forward to seeing them at practice. Once,

Mikey Worosz and I annoyed everyone else to the point that they wanted us to shut up," said freshman Tyler Smith.

Mike Worosz coached both the girls' and boys' golf teams this school year.

"I've been playing golf my whole life, but now my dad is the coach. It's nice for me to have my dad as a resource, but I definitely have more pressure since he's always paying attention to me. It started out rough, but we picked it up at the end," said sophomore

Mikey Worosz.

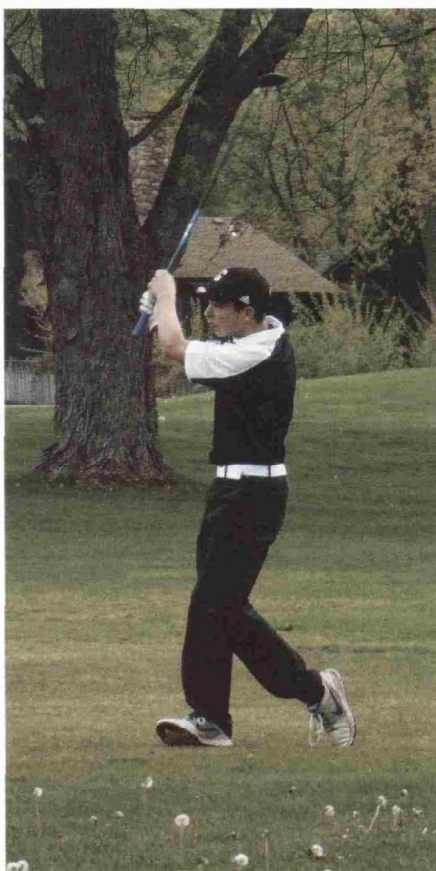
"Now I consider them great friends and I always look forward to seeing them at practice," said freshman Tyler Smith.

Mikey Worosz, 10



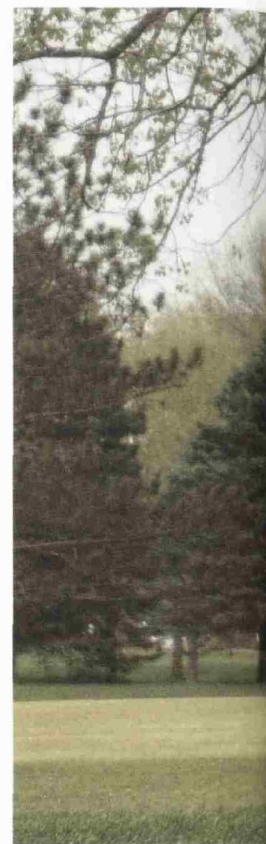
While golfing at Sandy Pines during sectionals, senior Heather Steele gets ready to make her shot. "My favorite part of golf is being able to meet people and spending time with my team," said Steele.

Hoping to get a great score, sophomore Chris Albanese tries to align himself to score without using many strokes. "I love shooting for really good scores; it makes me excited and ready to play golf," said Albanese.



The girls' golf team became best friends over their time together. "This year we got closer by going to someone's house for pasta night to chill and talk," said junior Angelika Rodriguez.

Freshman Catherine Bryzcki met new people over the course of her 2016 season. "At this meet, I met a girl from KV who told me about how she dealt with a fight at school," said Bryzcki.



At the Scherwood course, freshman Ryan Jelenski competes. "I joined golf because I've always taken it seriously. It's basically the only sport I've played since I was 7 or 8," said Jelenski.



Varsity Boys



Row 1: Ryan Jelenski, Chris Albanese, Matt Dildine, Jake Janik, Mikey Worosz
Row 2: Keith Hernandez, Sam Stassin, Zach Hilgeman, Tyler Smith, Mike Worosz

Girls: 9-2

Boys: 6-10

Opponent: Score: Opponent: Score:

LC Invite	458	Hobart Scramble	131
Hobart Scramble	40	Hanover Central	180
Munster; Lowell	211	Portage Invite	396
KV Invite	465	KV	217
Andrean	210	Munster	221
Highland;		Hanover Central;	
Hanover	201	Lowell	212
Calumet	211	Highland	205
KV; Hobart	232	North Newton;	
North Newton;		Marquette;Wheeler	203
Wheeler	201	Andrean	203
NCC Tournament	445	Whiting;Highland;BNI	190
BNI	217	Calumet;Whiting	187
Sectionals	438	Hobart	209
Regionals:		LC Invite	201
Catherine Brzycki	90	NCC Tournament	370

Varsity Girls



Row 1: Melanie Meyer, Bekka Rex, Catherine Brzycki, Courtney Smith, Brittany Brummet
Row 2: Mike Worosz, Heather Steele, Mary Lesko, Maddie Nolan, Kylie Maloney, Angelika Rodriguez, Kirsten Edwards

Varsity



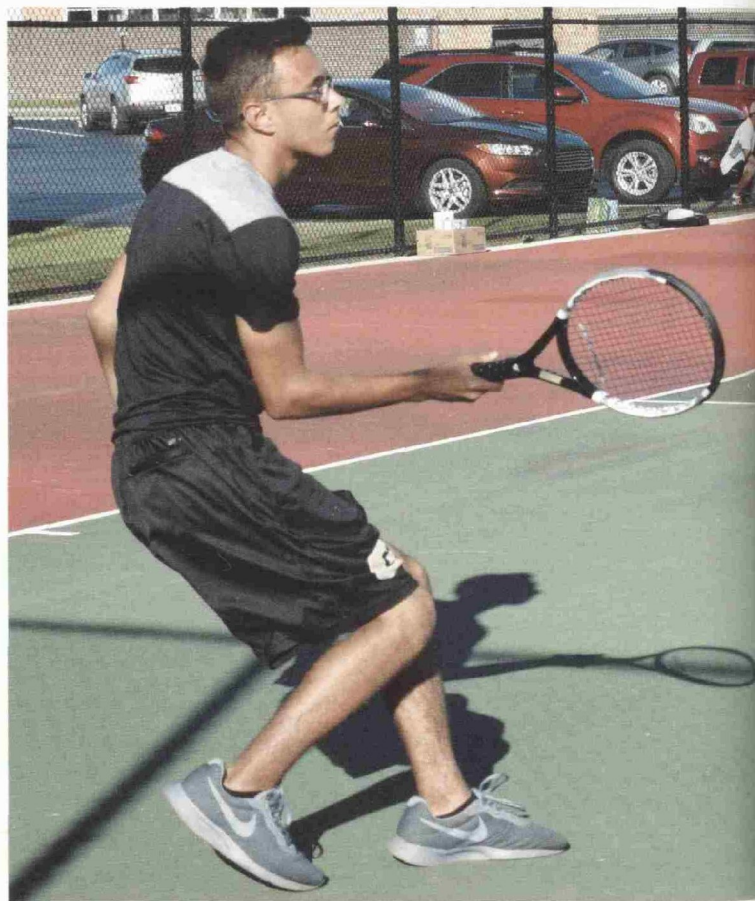
Row 1: Stephon Murphy, Mason Isenblatter, Curtis Carter, Tyler Smith, Joe White

Row 2: Christian O'Brian, Christian Raglin, Ryan Dudliceck, Charles Murphy

Opponent: Score:

Wheeler	4-1
Calumet	0-5
EC Central	2-1
Lake Station	0-5
Highland	0-5
Kankakee Valley	1-4
Lowell	0-5
Andrean	0-4
Hobart	0-5
Morton	1-4
Munster	0-5
Bishop Noll	1-4
Gavit	4-1
River Forest	3-2

Serving, freshman Charles Murphy plays doubles with his partner freshman Curtis Carter. "I have the best doubles partner anyone could ever possibly ask for! We work really well together on the court," said Murphy.



The team does their cheer to pump themselves up for their game. "I love getting pumped up with my team before every match, it gets me excited to play," said freshman Curtis Carter who played doubles this season.

"I have never played tennis before, but I am very glad that I decided to join and I am looking forward to future seasons," said freshman Charles Murphy.

TENNIS TIME

by: Leanna Early

At the beginning of every sport's season, there are usually a handful of returning athletes and a handful of newcomers. Those returning athletes help out the new players and show them the routine, but this year was a different story for the boy's tennis team. The boy's tennis team started brand new with no returning players and a total of only four athletes by the end of their season. This means they only had enough players to have number one and two singles and one doubles team. All of those four athletes are freshman and they all had minimum experience playing tennis and even fewer experience playing on a team.

"I have taken lessons for a few years now, but this is my first year ever playing competitively with a team," said freshman Ryan Dudliceck.

Since the team was made up of inexperienced players, that meant that their coach, Joe White, had his work cut out for him, but he made it work. Their season was also hectic due to the amount of people on the team consistently changing because there were athletes leaving and

joining throughout the season.

"It was a crazy and very unusual season because there were players who came and left a lot throughout the whole season," said freshman Curtis Carter.

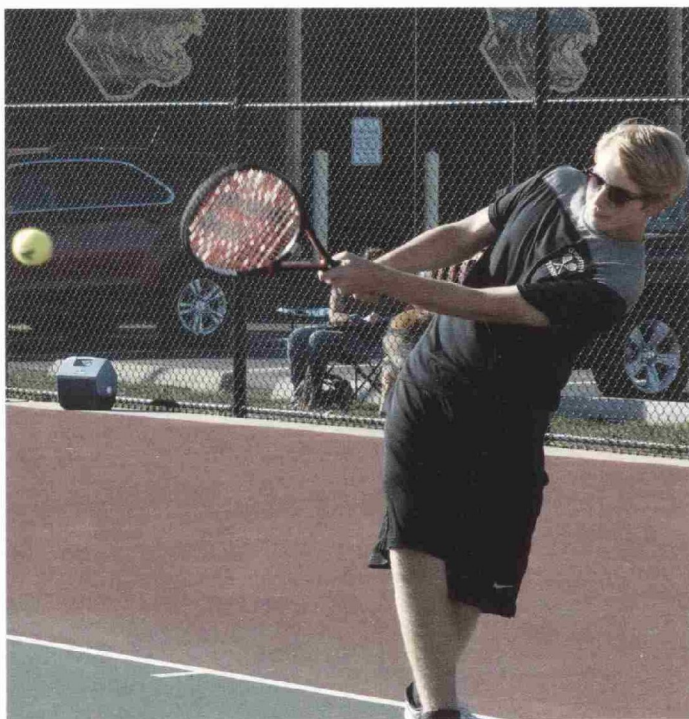
This might not have been the ideal season for the team, but they made the best out of what they had.

The team might not have got any records or a whole lot of wins, but they worked hard and accomplished their own personal goals.

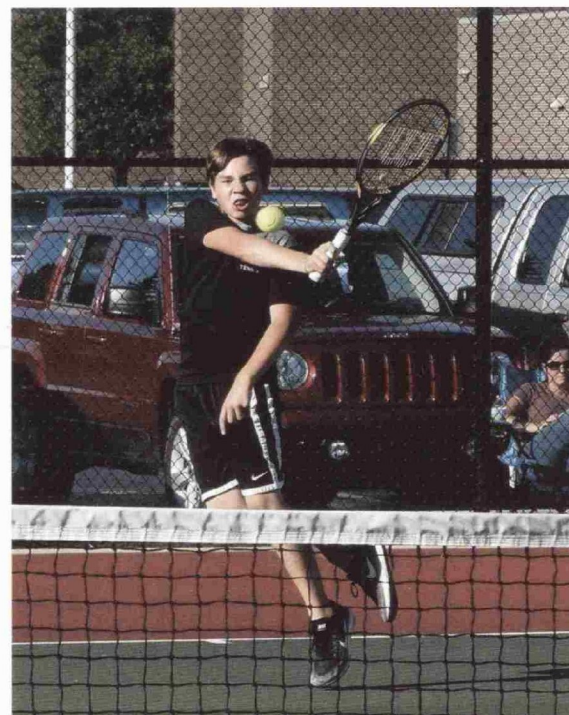
"I haven't played much before this year, but joining the team was one of the best decisions I have ever made. I can't wait for us to grow as players and as a team," said freshman Charles Murphy.

Tyler Smith, 9

"In tennis, I enjoyed not only playing, but watching my teammates play and succeed in the sport, as well," said freshman Ryan Dudliceck who played singles throughout the season.



Playing number one singles, freshman Tyler Smith hits to his opponent. "This season was a learning experience and we look forward to more years of improvement," Smith said.



RING CHASERS

by: Rhiannon Banks & Grace Opinker

Basketball season rolled around again and Griffith's basketball team settled down away from the spotlight they'd been in for previous seasons. Practice began right away with the first official game of the year approaching very quickly. "I was excited for the first game so that we could prove ourselves to everyone who doubted us," said junior Jake Dye.

The Panthers began the season strong with a nine game winning streak, ending it with a tough loss to Crown Point. "Losing to Crown Point felt horrible because our team didn't play to our full potential," said senior Cornell Hampton.

After going back and forth between wins and losses, they came out of the regular season with a 20-3 record. "I believe our season was impressive although some games we could have done better together as a team," said senior Tray Boone.

For sectionals, they drew a pool of Gavit, Lighthouse, Kankakee Valley, and Hammond High. The Panthers first round game was against Hammond High, a rival, because of the tough loss the Panthers took to them during the regular season. They won the game against the Wildcats with a close score of 67-62. The Panthers

second game was against Gavit and they won 69-38. For the championship game, they played Lighthouse and ended up winning 82-78. "Playing in sectionals was a great experience, especially since it was my first year on the team," said junior Matthew Pierson.

"This basketball season has been a great learning experience for me and I consider the team family," said senior Amere Williams.

The Panthers advanced to Regionals, winning their first game against West Lafayette. 64-40. However, they fell short in overtime for the final game against Twin Lakes losing 69-64. "The loss in regionals was heartbreaking, but overall I felt like I made a lot of improvements this season and was able to get a decent amount of varsity playing time," said sophomore Michael Kantor.

Although the Panthers may not have gotten as far as they originally hoped, they shocked the Region.

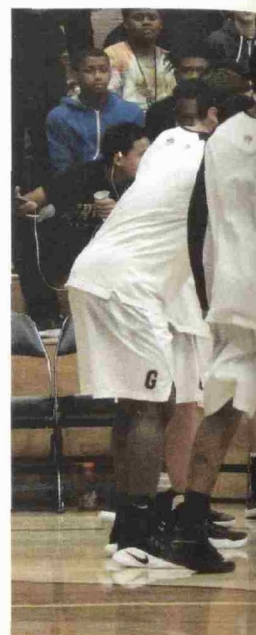
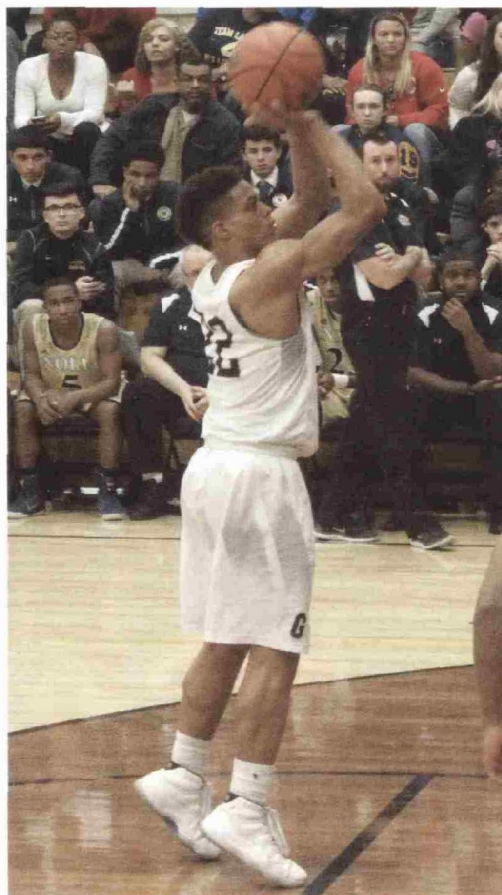
"My junior year was successful and I'm hoping to be able to play more my senior year," said junior Maurice Grandberry.

Tim Lawson, 10



Jumping up for a shot, senior LaDerrick Williams shoots a three-pointer. "My favorite thing about playing offense is that I'm able to score points for my team," said Williams.

After being fouled, senior Al Ervin takes his two free throws. "When I shoot free throws I just like to focus on making the basket and blocking everyone's cheering out," said Ervin.



Upon hearing his name being called, senior Tarves Arnold gets off of the bench. "When I hear my name called I get excited, especially since it's my first year being a starting varsity player," said Arnold.



In an attempt to deflect the shot, senior Torin Dillon jumps to the rim to hit the ball away. "When on defense, I always like to get as many steals as I can and make sure the other team has a hard time shooting," said Dillon.

Varsity



Row 1: Tray Boone, Michael Kantor, Amere Williams, Maurice Grandberry, Matthew Pierson, Al Ervin, Alaa Mroueh

Row 2: Grayling Gordon, Timothy Lawson, LaDerrick Williams, Tarves Arnold, Jake Dye, Aarion Harvey, Cornell Hampton, Torin Dillon, Gary Hayes

Opponent:

Score:

West Side	56-52
Clark	61-46
21st Century	67-49
Morton	66-56
Lighthouse	70-48
Highland	68-37
Gary West Side	60-46
Hobart	70-37
Lowell	64-59
Crown Point	68-56
Gavit	62-36
E.C. Central	55-48
Andrean	55-53
Hammond High	63-57
Calumet	53-46
BNI	80-50
Kankakee Valley	72-42
Bowman Academy	55-50
Gary Roosevelt	50-44

JV



Row 1: Craig Gordon, Jalyne Perry-Bell, Delorean Butler, Josh Peterson, Triston Sanders, Anson Wright

Row 2: Hector Vega, Kyle Iwinski, Milan Odufuye, Tim McCoy, Josiah Harden, Jonathan King, Anthony Lane

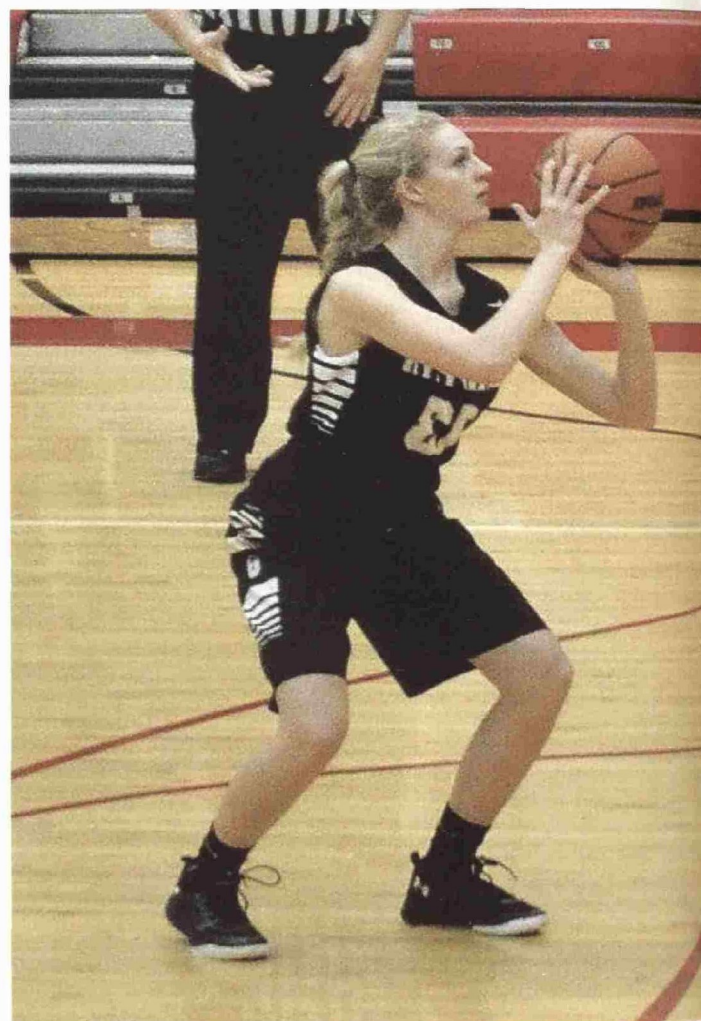


Row 1: Kirsten Edwards, Grace Szymanski, Kaelyn Price, Lilyana Salazar, Kamryn Pulliam
Row 2: Rachel Deck, Briah Strezo, Kayla Piper, Rachel Kruhaj, Sierra Slaven

Opponent: Score:

Calumet	48-37
Hammond	43-46
River Forest	20-50
Wheeler	33-41
Hobart	26-43
Morton	46-71
Hebron	33-53
Rensselaer	21-73
Lowell	40-50
Andean	26-56
Munster	29-54
21st Century	82-14
Portage	33-64
Kankakee Valley	36-69
Gavit	54-24
Whiting	24-17
Clark	52-26
Highland	24-67
Bowman Academy	50-57
Washington Township	46-49

Smiling at her teammate, senior Rachel Deck takes a break on the bench from her game against Gavit. "I'm glad I got to spend my last year with this team because I could always count on them to make me smile," said Deck.



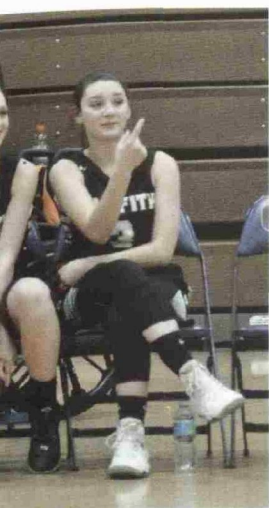
With her eyes set on the basket, junior Skylar Davenport prepares to shoot her first of two freethrows. "Freethrows are very nerve-wracking because they can make or break a game," said Davenport.



Row 1: Jill Carroll, Aryn Stevens, Kirsten Edwards, Tatianna Negrete, Emily Kruhaj, Jovhana Chenoweth, Amar Issa
Row 2: Briah Strezo, Diamond Arthur, Haley Conners, Kina Grayson, Brianna Paulsen

fAMILY ON THE COURT

by: Lilyana Salazar



When conditioning began, the coaches and teammates were shocked about the large amount of people that wanted to join. The team had enough members for a junior varsity, varsity, and C team. As the year progressed, the teams numbers began to dwindle down due to injuries, sickness, and lack of determination. The ones who stayed saw a great amount of progress from last year to this year.

In order to be on the team, the members needed to be determined and dedicated to coming to practices and games. Practices ranged from five to six days a week depending on the girls game schedules. On most of the Saturday practices the assistant coach, Kari Nelson, would bring in Panera bagels, donuts, and breakfast drinks. The team would hold competitions over the practice, such as who had the best free-



Sierra Slaven, 11

"This year I improved on my skills a lot. I'm going to miss the seniors that have helped me throughout the season," said freshman Amar Issa.

throw average and the highest efficiency rating in the last game the team played.

Every year the girls basketball team hosts the summer league for teams around the region. This is one of the fundraisers the team does to help pay for their spirit wear along with selling fan shirts. These shirts were allowed to have a customized name on the back unlike last year. The last fundraiser the team held was "pop-a-shot." This fundraiser took place during halftime of every home game. The crowd would pay one dollar to shoot either a layup, freethrow, or three pointer in order to receive a two liter of pop. All of the fundraising and sponsoring from businesses allowed the team to receive banners made by CineMagic Sportsline. A team banner and individual senior banners were hung in the gym and in the hallway before entering the main gym.

"This year I improved on my skills a lot. I'm going to miss the seniors that have helped me throughout the season," said freshman Amar Issa.



"I felt very emotional on my senior night because I knew it was my last season," said senior Kaelyn Price. With her family by her side, Price listens to the speaker announce her future goals.



Staying in help side, senior Kayla Piper waits for her opponents to pass the ball. "I was told not to be a selfish player so I did what I could to help us win. You can't win unless you learn how to lose," said Piper.

TIME TO SHRED

By: Kylee Taylor

The Griffith High School swim team started outdoor conditioning on the track in August shortly after school started. The official season for girls started at the end of October and for boys in the middle of November.

"I wasn't expecting to do as well as I did because it was my first time swimming. I really enjoyed how this season everyone was so friendly to me and to each other," said freshman Carleigh Linders. Two new assistant coaches, Barbara Bolda and Robert Keene, were added to the team this season. Junior

Mary Lesko returned as the manager. Teambonding, such as making t-shirts and sleepovers, also took place. Senior night occurred on January 26, 2017. Juniors,

sophomores, and freshmen had to bid one last farewell to the four seniors on the team: Evan Queen, Carson Grin, Leanna Early, and Christine Morikis.

"I really enjoyed how this season everyone was so friendly to me and to each other," said freshman Carleigh Linders.

This season both the boys' and girls' swim teams placed sixth in the NCC conference. At sectionals the girls' team placed eighth and the boys' placed ninth. Freshman Haylie Keene broke the school records in the 200 freestyle and the 100 freestyle events. At sectionals, the

200 freestyle relay team, consisting of sophomores Macie Miller and Skylar Zurek, and freshmen Kylee Taylor and Haylie Keene, broke that record as well.

The girls' team was led by captains seniors Leanna Early and Christine Morikis and junior Veronica Matthews. The boys' team captains were senior Evan Queen and junior Matthew Thomas.

"When I was not practicing because of my shoulder injury, I kept thinking someone else is getting better than me, and when

I got back into the water it made me work a lot harder," said junior Wesley Meadows.

This season high school swimmers also volunteered at middle school swim practice to instruct and provide assistance to the coaches.



Skylar Zurek, 10

While showing her holiday spirit, freshman Sarah Thomas swims the butterfly stroke while wearing a Santa Claus swim cap. "I always wear Santa hats during Christmas, so I decided that I needed a cap," said Thomas.

During a swim meet sophomore Richard Damron takes a powerful breath in his breaststroke during the 200 IM event. "I do not like the IM, it's awful and it's tiring," said Damron.



At practice, junior Veronica Matthews kicks next to senior Evan Queen. "We would pretend we were swimmers in the Amazon and all the other swimmers were animals and we had to get away from them," said Matthews.



At the tri-meet hosted at GHS, junior Makenna Sons swims the backstroke. "I like the backstroke because I can keep my head above the water the whole time," said Sons.



Standing on top of the blocks, seniors Carson Grin and Leanna Early are honored during senior night. "It was bittersweet leaving the team, but I wouldn't want to spend it with anyone else," said Early.

Girls



Row 1: Erica Dross, Kylee Taylor, Carleigh Linders, Sarah Thomas, Victoria Martinez, Christine Morikis, Samantha Rettie, Courtney Smith, Christina Li
Row 2: Barbara Bolda, Stephanie Lester, Macie Miller, Veronica Matthews, Makenna Sons, Leanna Early, Haylie Keene, Mary Lesko, Theresa McLoughlin

Girls

3-7

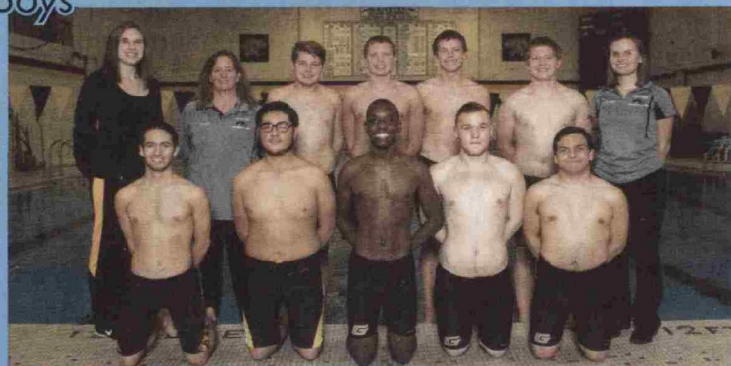
Boys

3-7

Opponent: Score: Opponent: Score:

Highland	L	Munster	L
Lowell	L	Gavit	W
Munster	L	Hobart Invite	4th
Gavit	W	Kankakee Valley	L
Hobart Invite	2nd	Merrillville	L
Kankakee Valley	L	Wheeler/Calumet	2nd
Merrillville	W	Highland	L
Wheeler/Calumet	2nd	Morton	W
Morton	W	Lowell	L
NCC Meet	6th	BNI/Clark	1st
BNI/Clark	1st	NCC Meet	6th
Sectionals	8th	Sectionals	9th

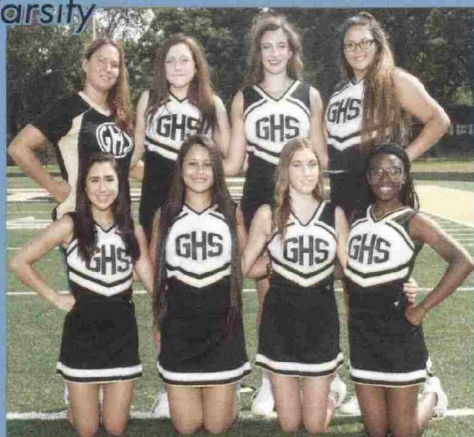
Boys



Row 1: Evan Queen, Damian Villalpando, Wesley Meadows, Collin Meadows, Gabriel Cruz

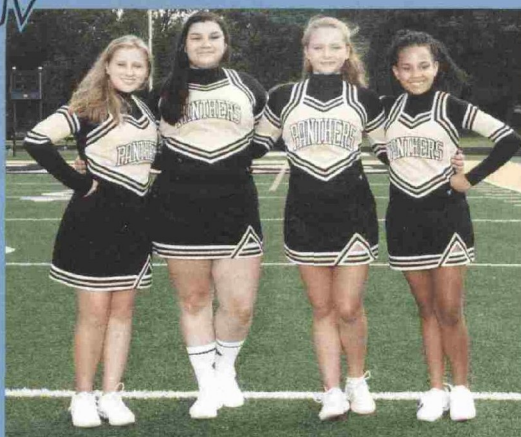
Row 2: Mary Lesko, Barbara Bolda, Shawn Falstrom, Carson Grin, Richard Damron, Matthew Thomas, Theresa McLoughlin

Varsity



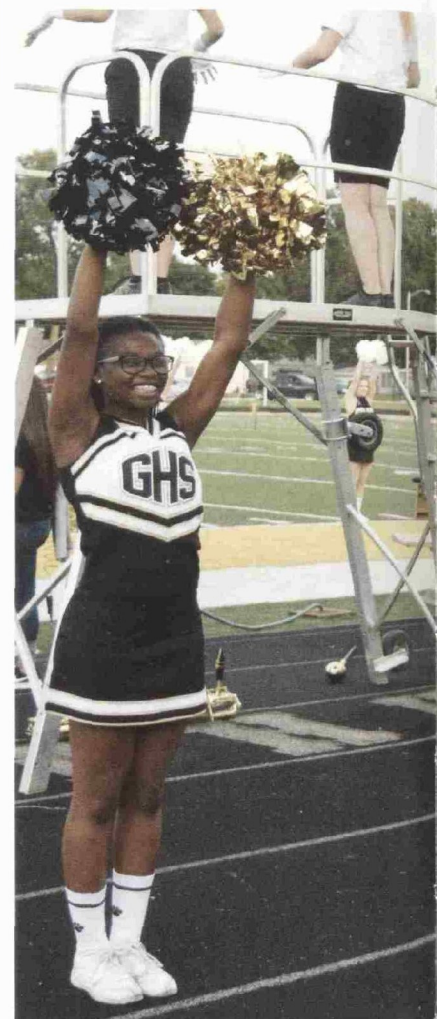
Row 1: Haley Gearhart, Lia Coria, Hannah Schultz, Andria Johnson
Row 2: Danielle Carlson, Kayla Slachta, Paige Zoran, Olivia Halley

JV



Row 1: Ashley Timm, Ivanna Carrera, Hayley Ratliff, Angel Lomax

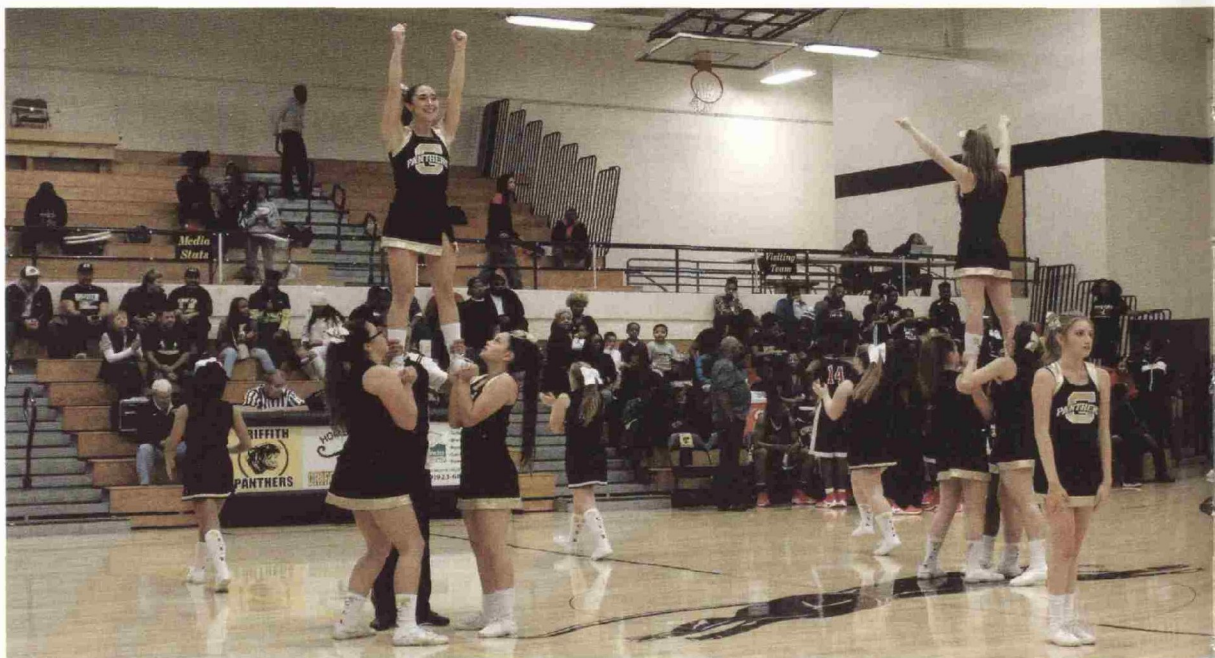
While performing the school song, freshmen Lia Coria and Andria Johnson cheer to pump up the crowd. "I like cheering at football games because it's more intense," said Coria.



During little girls camp, the girls cheered at a football game with the high school cheerleaders. "I love that the little girls enjoy cheering as much as we do and that they came ready to cheer everyday of the camp," said junior Haley Gearhart.



Performing at the basketball game, the cheerleaders work to perfect their stunts. "I enjoy stunts the most because they keep the fans and teams pumped up," said freshman Olivia Halley.



READY 2 STUNT

By: Vanessa Bullion & Haley Dixon

The 2016-2017 cheerleaders worked hard during both football and basketball season to keep the fans pumped. The cheerleaders never missed a game, whether it was home or away. The cheerleaders were always there and never failed to be full of spirit and pick up the teams energy.

The cheer team consisted of a lot of new faces this year. There was only two returners and the team gained a new coach. Former pop warner coach, Danielle Carlson, was the new varsity coach for the 2016-2017 season. "Coach Danielle really understood the sport and was really organized. She worked with us a lot more and we got more done this season," said sophomore Paige Zoran.

The girls would practice two days a week. The practices would normally take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:15 to 5:15. At practices the girls

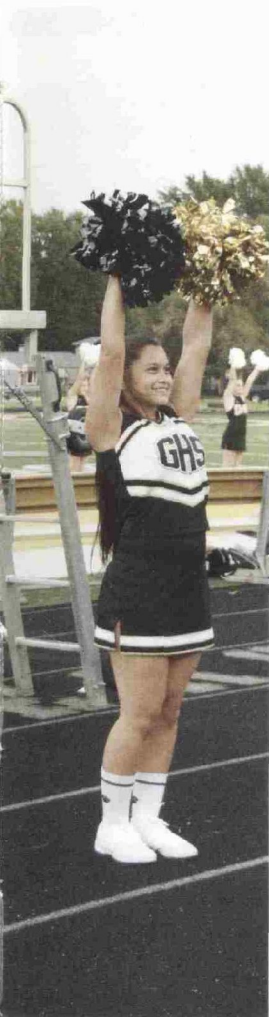
went over cheers and stunts or they learned new ones. "Stunts are by far my favorite part of practices because they are good to practice and learn for the cheering season," said freshman Hayley Ratliff.

When football season rolled around, the girls were always there to cheer on the team from the track and keep the crowd energized. Soon after football season, basketball season approached. With the basketball team advancing to regionals, extra practices were mandatory. "I loved to be there to cheer on the team and keep all of the players and fans pumped for the game," said freshman Ivanna Carrera.

Like previous years, the cheerleaders hosted a little girls camp. The little girls camp is for girls in grades kindergarten through sixth. The girls practice with the cheerleaders for a week and then they perform with the cheerleaders at the first home game. "I really enjoyed making the picture frames with the girls to put the picture we took together in because it was a good memory for my first year of cheerleading," said freshman Andria Johnson.

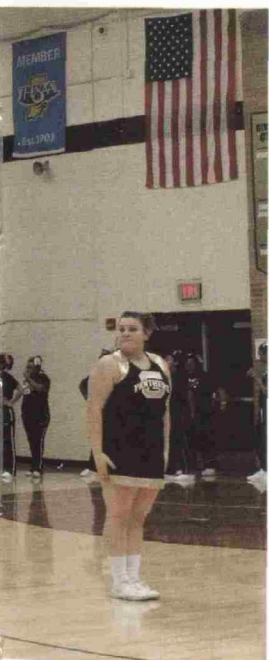
"Stunts are by far my favorite part of practices because they are good to practice and to learn for the cheering season," said freshman Hayley Ratliff.

Paige Zoran, 10



As the teams were in time-out, the cheerleaders perform a cheer to keep the fans upbeat. "I enjoy cheering for the boys and being able to pump them up," said freshman Angel Lomax.

"Senior night was upsetting because I realized I will never cheer with these girls again," said senior Hannah Schultz after being walked by her father and step-mother on senior night.



EAT.SLEEP.BOWL

by: Emily Keck

With many practices under their belts, Griffith came out strong in the NWIHSB Holiday Classic. After many rounds the boys qualified 2nd out of 18 teams. They ended up winning the semi-final moving onto the finals where they faced South Bend. The panthers beat South Bend by only a few pins, therefore winning the competition.

"Winning the tournament helped a lot because it gave everyone high hopes to having a very successful season," said junior Kyle Cartwright.

This season the girls' went 9-3, the boys also went 9-3, both placing third in their conference. Both teams had a successful season, the girls' were the NWIHSB Holiday Classic Champions in the small school division. The boys' were also NWIHSB Holiday Classic Champions, they also brought home a second place win at the Wildcat Challenge in South Bend.

Juniors' Kyle Cartwright, and John Lawson qualified for Regionals, while sophomore Chris Albanese qualified for Regionals and Semi-State. Overall the boys'

team had the 7th highest team average in the state and the 7th highest team game in the state.

Senior, Ale Albanese won Sectionals. This was the first time a girl has ever been a sectional champion in Griffith girls' bowling history. Albanese qualified for

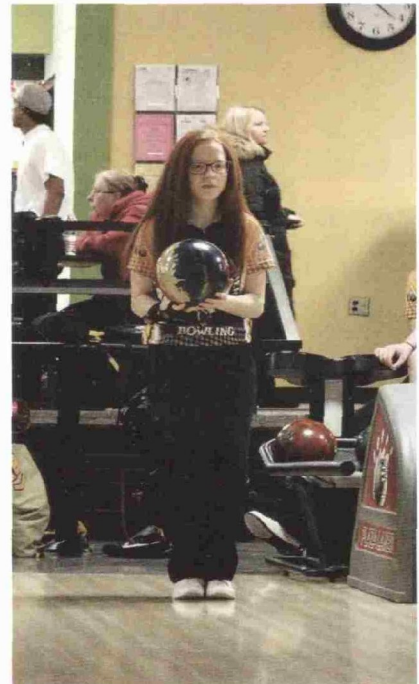
Regionals along with junior Kylie Maloney. The girls' only having one senior relied on underclassmen to step up their game. During sectionals the girls' were up by twenty going into the last game. The team missed qualifying for Regionals by only fifteen pins.

"Not qualifying for Regionals as a team was very upsetting because we worked so hard to get there and we only missed qualifying by fifteen pins, but I think as a team and as an individual this season was better than last season and we grew and became more than teammates, we became a family," said junior Delia Booker.

Erica Ward, 11

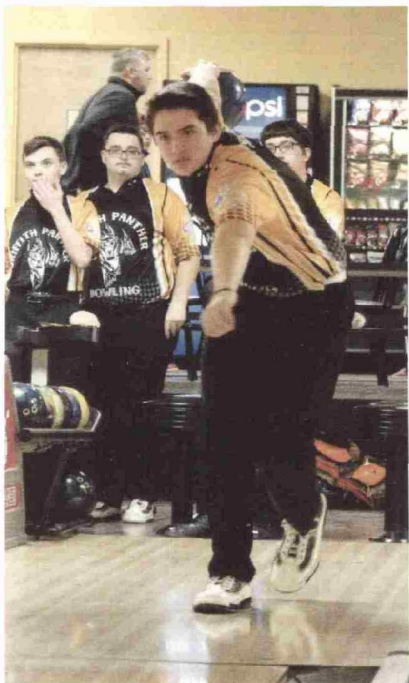
"This season was better than last season and we grew and became more than teammates, we became a family," Junior Delia Booker

Bowling since he was two, sophomore Jacob Collins has his eyes set on the pins. "Ever since I was in middle school I couldn't wait to be a part of the varsity bowling team," said Collins.

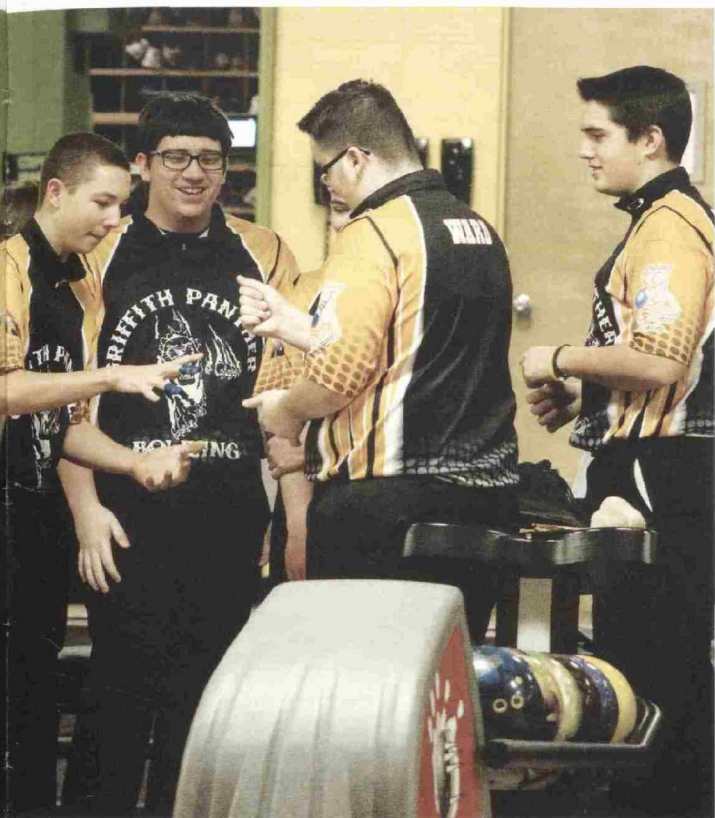


"I have been bowling for three years now and this season the team has become really close because we have bonded together so much," said junior Kylie Maloney.

"I really enjoy how close we are as a team and I like how when someone is down we all come together and try to cheer them up," said junior Taylor Grady.

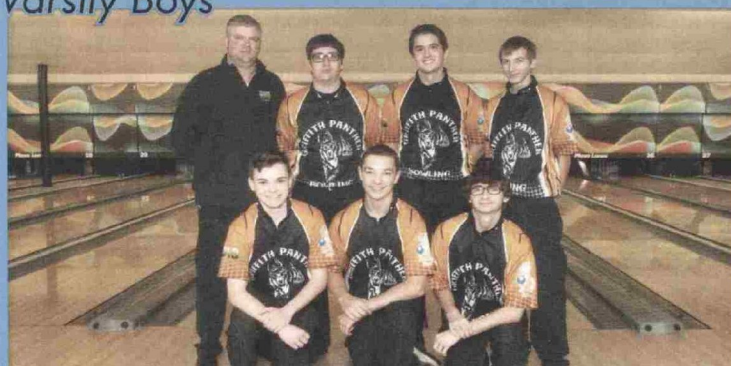


Sophomore, Chris Albanese and 8th grader Nathan Ward, JV bowler play rock-papers-scissors to see who gets to bowl first. "We all enjoy being with each other whether it's at games or practices," said Albanese.



Ale Albanese, 12 is escorted by her parents on senior night. "I was very emotional on senior night I was shocked and very sad that my high school bowling days are over," said Albanese.

Varsity Boys



Row 1: Garrett Zambo, Chris Albanese, Tyler Debold.
Row 2: Coach Ed, Kyle Cartwright, Jake Collins, John Lawson.

Girls: 9-3

Boys: 9-3

Opponent: Score: Opponent: Score:

BYE	20-0	Andean	19-1
Clark	19-1	Highland	17-3
Highland	5-15	Calumet	20-0
Lake Central	0-20	Munster	19-1
Morton	19-1	Bishop Noll	18-2
Bishop Noll	14-6	Merrillville	4-16
Andean	19-1	Lake Central	17-3
Bishop Noll	15.5-4.5	Merrillville	9-11
BYE	20-0	Clark	18-2
Clark	17-3	Morton	18.5-1.5
Highland	5-15	Andean	17-3
Morton	20-0	Merrillville	8-12

Varsity Girls



Row 1: Ale Albanese, Yamia Smith, Leah Vuckovich, Lindsay Krajnik, Taylor Grady
Row 2: Coach Linda, Kylie Maloney, Delia Booker, Jayln Jones, Erica Ward, Coach Rick

Varsity

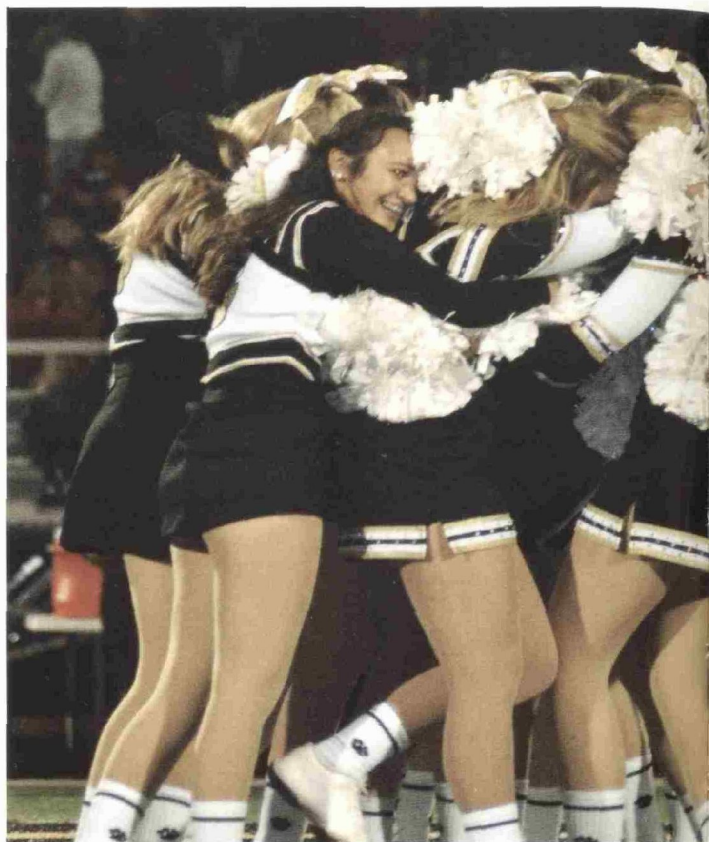


Row 1: Abbey Dobosz Renee Mierzwa
Row 2: Nina Cima de Villa Julianne Long Lauren Atkinson Brooke Rassel
 Dynahstee Moore
Row 3: Kayla Atkinson Caroline Brown Emilia Shapiro Hannah Bubala Kynide
 Williams

Host:

	Pom	Hip hop	Ensemble	Solo (Long)	Solo (Williams)
Crawfordsville	1st	1st	2nd		
Munster	4th	4th	2nd	5th	4th
Homestead	1st	2nd	4th	8th	9th
Rossville	1st	2nd	1st	9th	6th
Semi State:					
Crawfordsville	-	-	9th	-	15th
Regionals:					
Lake Central	4th	4th	-	-	-
State:					
New Castle	6th	9th	10th		

Senior night is bittersweet to most. "Losing our seniors and captains is heartbreaking. I'm going to miss this years' pasta nights, Abbey's lakehouse, and our team together," said sophomore Nina Cima de Villa.



Never losing a smile, senior Renee Mierzwa performs the school song. "It was bittersweet knowing it was my last season on the turf. Pregame is my favorite time, cheering for the boys as they run on the field," said Mierzwa.

Preparing for the Teri Calhoun game, the dancers stretch for the last time. "I make sure I am really stretched before games so I can do my jumps and kicks full out," said freshman Emilia Shapiro.

TIME FOR 5, 6, 7, 8

by: Julianne Long & Stephanie Lester

The Pantherette's goal in 2017 was the same this year as the year before, and the year before that. That goal was to make it to State.

Football season consisted of five home games, all in which the girls made up their own dances to perform. They made up choreography using old competition dances, and dances from UDA camp, which they attended this summer. "UDA camp was a great bonding experience with the team and that is where I learned how to do double turns," said freshman Kayla Atkinson.



Even though the football season was rainy, that only made the team bond more. "I was sad whenever it rained, because we could've performed better. Sidelines were the worst because the rain always got in my eyes and we wore ponchos so we couldn't wipe our makeup," said freshman Hannah Bubala.

Brooke Russell, 10

Competition sea-

"I am so proud we made it all the way to State and competing on that floor was a great experience," said freshman Caroline Brown.

son came before they knew it. The season started in December with first place in Pom and Hip hop.

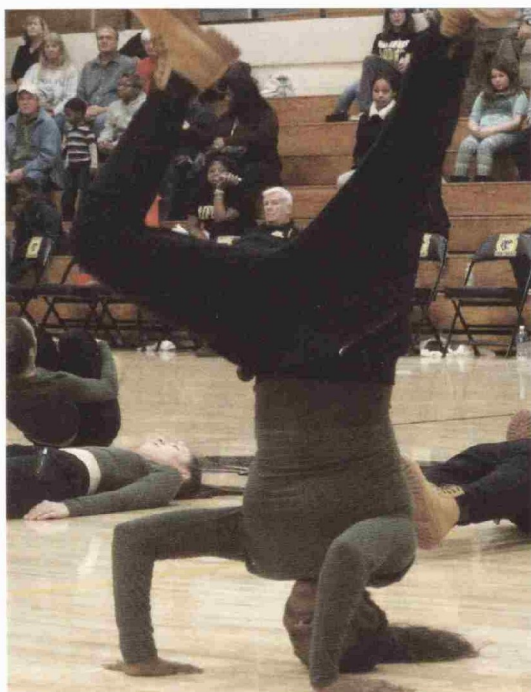
The team attended four invitationals and advanced to Regionals. Sophomores Julianne Long and Kynide Williams both had solos this year. Williams advanced to Semi

State along with the team's large ensemble, which advanced to the State finals. The ensemble included seniors Abbey Dobosz and Renee Mierzwa, and sophomores Lauren Atkinson, Julianne Long and Brooke Russell.

Regionals were held at Lake Central High School and the team advanced to the State Finals at Crawfordsville in Hip hop and Pom. "I am so proud we made it all the way to state and competing on that floor was a great experience," said freshman Caroline Brown.

The season all together was a huge success.

The state finals resulted in the team placing top 10 and being .7 points away from placing in the top 5. "The season was much better this year than last and we placed higher than we have in the past, which we were excited about," said sophomore Dynahstee Moore.



Although the uniform made it difficult, sophomore Kynide Williams' favorite part of the Hip hop routine was still the headstand. "Our shoes were kind of heavy and made it difficult not to fall over," said Williams.



"I like football season so much because the huge crowd helps to prepare the team for competitions," said sophomore Lauren Atkinson performing the dance her and her teammates choreographed.

In the tunnel before they compete on the state floor, the large ensemble prays. "A tradition we have is to pray before every performance. My favorite part was qualifying for State," said senior Abbey Dobosz.

TIME FOR A SLAM

By: Damian Villalpando

For some, wrestling at GHS is a pastime, a sport that many take seriously, and take deep pride within. This sport takes exhausting months of practice, dedication, and most wrestlers wouldn't want it any other way. The sport can be brutal, with exhausting conditioning, hours of tiring practice, and meets early in the morning. "I did wrestling because I enjoyed slamming people and how wrestling was a challenge. I wanted to finish what I started, so I kept going even when I was tired and when I thought I couldn't do any more," said freshman Logan Vallandigham.

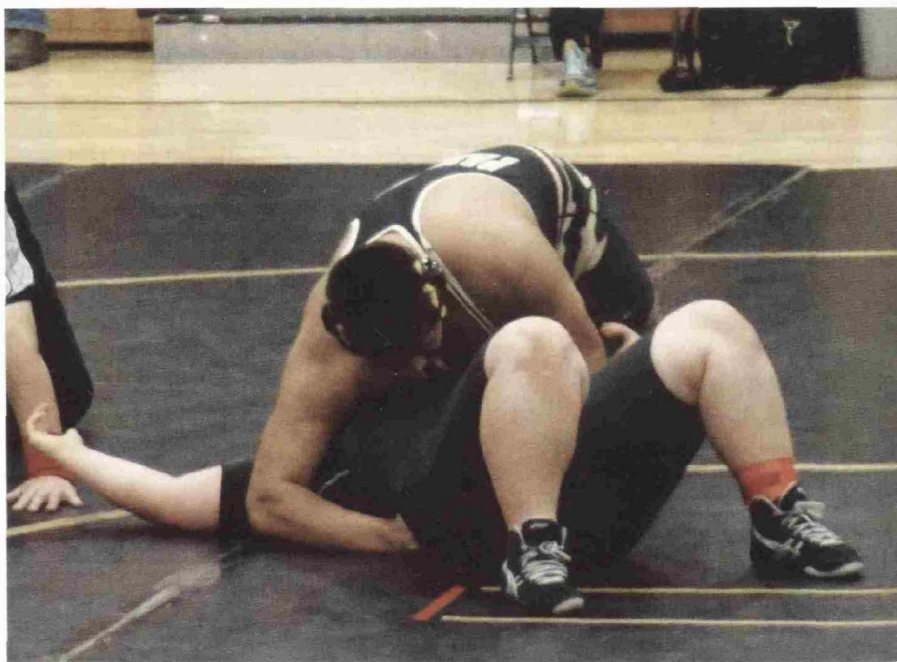
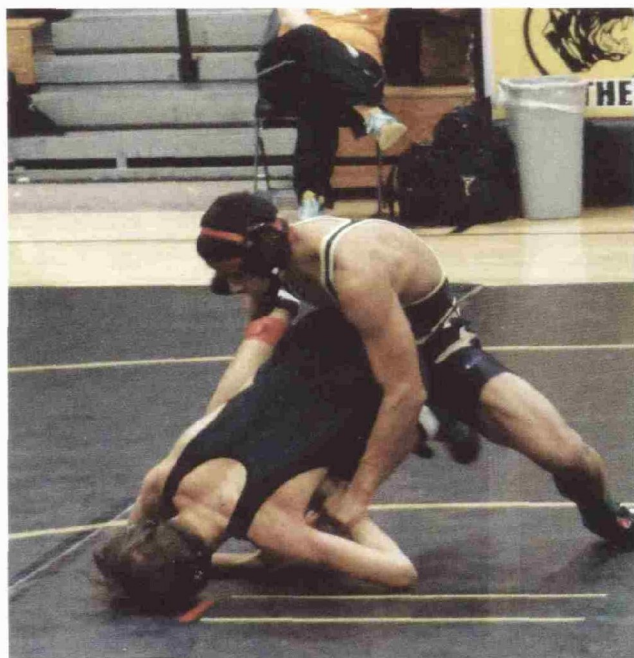
Most wrestlers have some time before their match to watch others wrestle, especially at large tournaments like the LC Harvest Classic. In between matches, they can do some activities like eat, rest, or watch other wrestlers. These tournaments can be incredibly long, using up the better part of the day. "In between matches I would either chill out or warm up," said Freshman Quinten McToy. "I just sort of laid in the bleachers and talked to the others. My season didn't go well because I wrestled mostly seniors," said McToy.

"I wanted to finish what I started, so I kept going even when I was tired and I thought I couldn't do anymore," said Vallandigham

Some days, wrestlers at Griffith woke up in the early hours for meets, spending most of their day watching others wrestle or waiting for their match. Other days they arrived in the evening, spending the most of their night at the meet. Junior Patrick Land said, "We slept a lot on the bus and on wrestling mats before our meets because the schedule is very demanding, but once the adrenaline is pumping, im fully awake. I like morning meets better because I don't have to think about the stress of the whole day when I get on the mat," said Land. Even though there is only one match in a normal meet, it is still terribly draining. Wrestling is not only incredibly physical, but mental as well. Whether it's being put up against an opponent who has more experience than you, or uneasiness before your match, wrestling demands immense effort and concentration on the mat and in practice.

Zach Steele, 11

Moments from his victory, Senior Manny Aguirre tightens the pin on his opponent. "I think my season went pretty well. I loved wrestling this year, it felt good to get in the ring and have a common interest in a sport with other guys," said Aguirre.



Throwing his opponent down, Senior Keith Hernandez begins to move in for a pin. "I wasn't proud of my finish for the season, but I made it further than others did. The team did good, and we had new coaches this year that were younger and easier to get along with," said Hernandez.

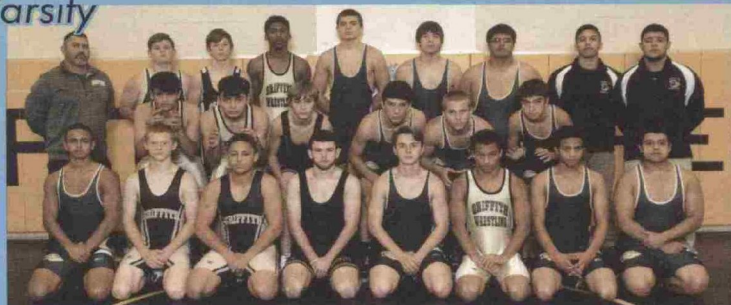


Exhausted after a wrestling meet, Freshman Xavier Lopez says, "Wrestling is a great challenge for me. It pushes me not only mentally, but physically as well. Striving to become better is my greatest motivation," said Lopez.



Gaining the upper hand on his opponent, Freshman Cole Reitz pushes his opponent to the ground. "I've been wrestling for 12 years, and both my brothers are wrestlers. I love wrestling, and it was a disappointment that my season didn't go as far as I wanted," said Reitz.

Varsity



Row 1: Keith Hernandez, Taylor Bliss, Stephon Murphy, Patrick Land, Trenton Pulliam, Antoine Thompson, Christian Wraglin, Diego Burgos

Row 2: Antonio Martinez, Xavier Lopez, Cole Reitz, Cole Cervantes, Jeremiah Reitz, Thomas Perez

Row 3: Frank Cervantes, Zack Steele, Ryan Davenport, Quinten McToy, Zach Shelly, Logan Vallandigham, Manny Aguirre, Michael Garza, Adam Garcia

Opponent:

Score:

Lowell

24-58

L.C. Harvest Classic

7th, 104 Points

Hanover Central

39-33

Wheeler

44-24

Munster Super Dual

12/17/16

Griffith Super Dual

12/31/16

Hobart

21-42

Lake County Tourney

6th, 129 Points

NCC Meet

1/14/17

Calumet

24-50

Hobart Invitational

1/21/17

Sectionals

4th, 159 Points

Regionals

5th, 39.5 Points

Semi State Qualifiers

Manny Aguirre, Keith Hernandez

State Qualifiers

Jeremiah Reitz, 5th



"I was honored," said Senior Jeremiah Reitz as he signed his letter of intent to Duke University. "It made me really nervous to sign with Duke. I'm also pretty sure I spelt my name wrong," said Reitz.

GRIND TIME

by: Jake Collins & Andrew Braddy

On March 14th, baseball season returned with a day of tryouts as Coach Brian Jennings and his coaching staff formed the 2017 baseball roster immediately after tryouts were over. The day after tryouts was the first practice of the year. Jennings' coaching staff, which included new coaches John Novosel and Todd Iwema, emphasized bunting, pitching, and defense right from the start. The first game of the season was a 10-0 win against Calumet on March 29th. "I worked so hard in the off season and at all of the work-outs and when I found out I was going to be on varsity I was so relieved because all of my hard work paid off. Being on varsity made me very excited for the season to start," said sophomore Cody Wilkins.

Griffith teamed up with Hanover Central who is now coached by former Griffith player and coach Ryan Bridges, by doing a fundraiser game for Chicago Cubs pitcher Jon Lester's NVRQT foundation, supporting pediatric cancer research on May 10th. Also, both teams had special jerseys made to wear in the game supporting pediatric cancer research. Griffith ended up losing that game 6-3 but it was for a great cause. "I was

nervous to start the cancer game, but at the same time I was honored that I got the opportunity because it was for a great cause," said sophomore Timmy Lawson.

The Panthers ended up going 7-5 in conference play this year as they ended their era in the NCC conference with a 8-7 walk-off win against Lowell at home on May 16th. Griffith

will be joining the Greater South Shore Conference next season in all sports.

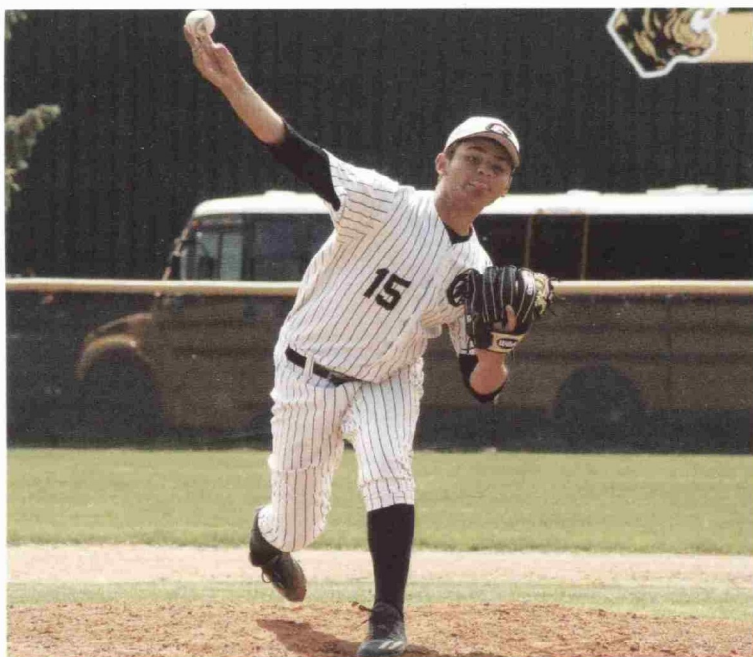
"It'll be exciting to go against new competition next year and I'm looking forward to making new rivalries with other teams," said

sophomore Cole Cervantes.

The panthers ended up winning their 6th straight sectional title against Hammond Clark on May 29th with a final of 7-1. On the following weekend on Saturday June 3rd the panthers would lose in a close game 2-0 against South Bend St. Joseph.

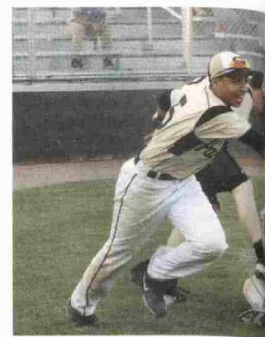
Alec Seberger, 12

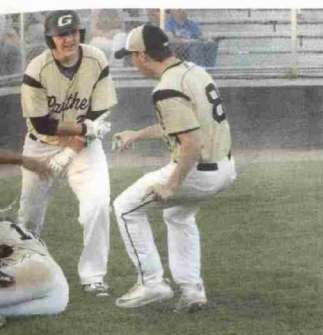
"It'll be exciting to go against new competition next year and I'm looking forward to making new rivalries with other teams," sophomore Cole Cervantes.



Pitching in the home conference game against Munster high school, junior Julian Rutherford looks for a backwards K. "Munster is a good team, but my coaches have taught me well. I just had to make all my pitches," said Rutherford.

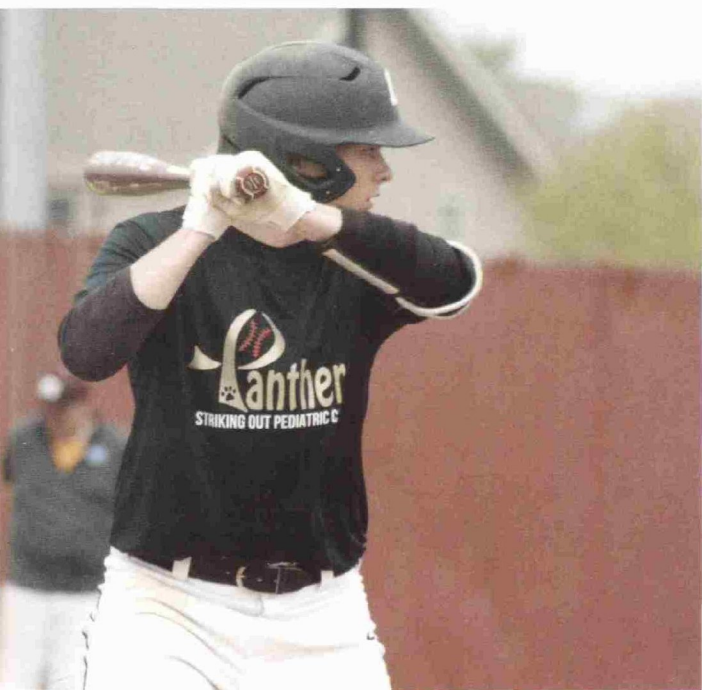
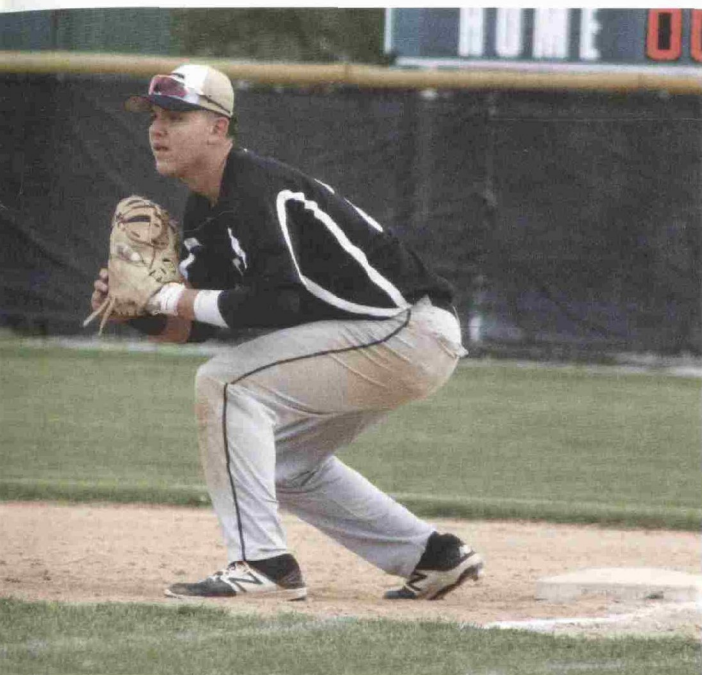
On the field for his last official home game, senior Elias Caraballo shakes hands with a fellow teammate on senior night. "It is crazy to think that my four years of high school baseball are over, it went by so fast," said Caraballo.





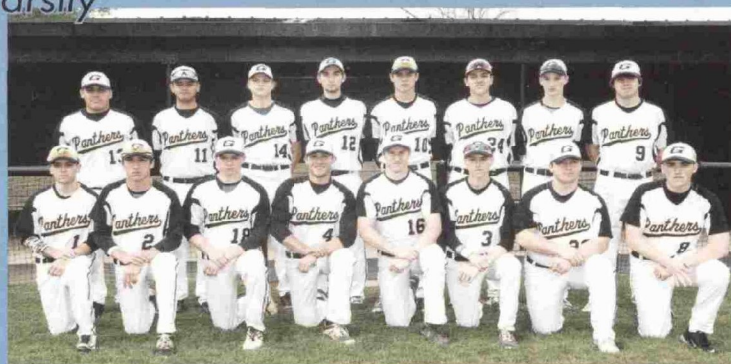
After an extra inning walk-off win against Lowell the teammates celebrate. "Any game that goes to extra innings is always amazing, but this one was even better because it was on senior night," said senior Sean Bailey.

Keeping his eye on the pitcher in an athletic stance, junior Xavier Romero waits for a throw over. "I focus on staying low so that I can block every throw over with my body," said Romero.



"Playing in the cancer game made me feel like I was doing a good deed because it was for a really good cause," said sophomore Johnny Maynard.

Varsity



Row 1: Elias Caraballo, Cole Cervantes, Johnny Maynard, Alec Seberger, Josh Miller, Cody Wilkins, Denny Colomes, Sean Bailey

Row 2: Gabe Pulido, Julian Rutherford, Kyle Iwinski, Timmy Lawson, Joey Martoccio, Xavier Romero, Isaiah Ramirez, Charlie Flores

Opponent:

Score:

Calumet	10-0
Whiteland	2-0/9-1
Kankakee Valley	8-4/4-3
New Prairie	1-0
Andean	14-4/12-0
Mishawaka	10-2/8-4
Highland	5-0/13-9
Portage	3-2
Munster	1-0/7-4
Valpo	7-5
East Chicago	14-0
Hanover Central	6-3
Hobart	1-0/6-0
Bishop Noll	4-2
Morton	12-1
Lowell	14-4/8-7
Washington Township	3-1
Lake Central	7-0
Morgan Township	8-1

Sectionals:

Hammond High	15-0
Hammond Clark	7-1

Regionals:

Saint Joseph	2-0
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JV



Row 1: Noah Czalbowski, Jason Miller, AJ Wright, Chase Cozmanoff, Julian Supulveda, Andrew Braddy, Christian Rivera

Row 2: Logan Harder, Noah Ramirez, Ryan Castillo, Drew Davenport, Andrew Garcia, John Lawson, Gabe Colomes

Varsity



Row 1: Brooklyn Richardson, Rhiannon Banks, Kamryn Pulliam, Trinity Page, Jessica Terzari, Grace Opinker, Tatyana Cima de Villa, Mariah Huesken
Row 2: Kasey Tinsley, Angel Meyer, Mary Lesko, Don Bence, Ali Schoon, Sabrina Dodson, Vanessa Bullion

Opponent:

Score:

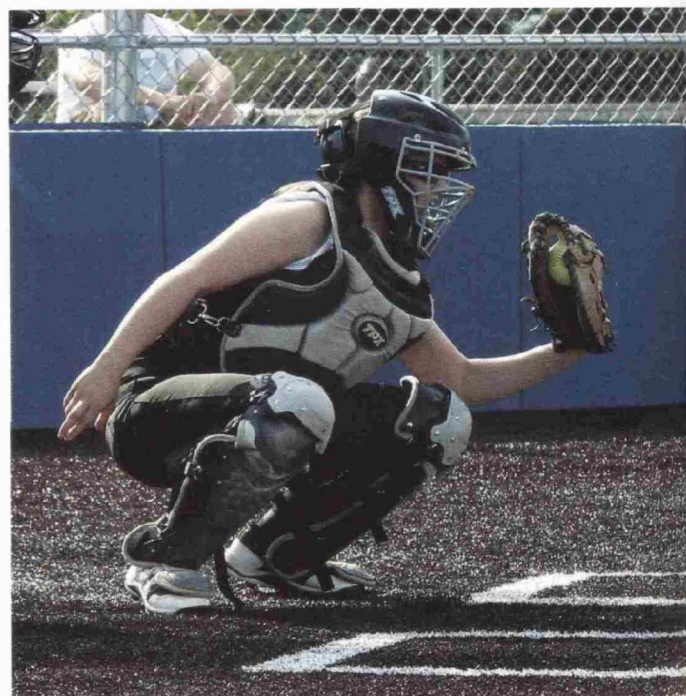
Michigan City	4-0
Merrillville	9-1
Boone Grove	9-3
Hobart	3-0
New Prairie	5-1
Andrean	3-0
Hanover Central	18-0
Munster	3-1
Portage	7-0
Lowell	1-0
Highland	8-0
Kankakee Valley	11-1
Hobart	6-3
Highland	6-0
Andrean	3-0
Bishop Noll	1-0
Lowell	6-1
Morton	2-1
Kankakee Valley	8-4
Gavit	15-0
Munster	11-1
Lake Central	11-0
Wheeler	2-1

JV



Row 1: Serena Duran, Taleah Alvarez, Kaylee Akers, Zoe Dieguez, Ashley Laskarin, Vanessa Pena
Row 2: Sara Harreld, Melanie Meyer, Briah Streza, Haley Dixon, Morgan Willis, Andria Johnson

On senior night, the JV team stood at the pitchers mound, creating a "dome of bats" for the honorary seniors to walk through. "I was excited to honor the seniors with my teammates," said freshman Melanie Meyer.



The whole crowd heard junior Ali Schoon's mitt pop as she caught the pitch. "Catching is my favorite position because I feel like I am in charge of the field," said Schoon.

NO PLACE LIKE HOME

by: Rhiannon Banks & Grace Opinker

As usual, conditioning started twice a week in early fall. Conditioning was open to all girls thinking about trying out for the team in the spring. "I was excited to finally be able to try out for the high school team. I enjoyed going to the games while in middle school, and thought it was really cool being able to scrimmage with everyone in the fall," said freshman Ashley Laskarin. Once the winter months arrived, conditioning was moved indoors where players got serious about fixing their mechanics and getting into shape for the spring season to arrive.

The season started off strong despite losing five starting seniors from the previous season. With the shortage, a few girls had to learn to play positions they had never played before. "Having never played second in my life before was a huge struggle at first. I had to learn new plays and start to do things instinctively. It's still hard at times trying to make sure I know what I'm doing at all points of the game, but my teammates have been very helpful in keeping me positive when I make an error," said junior

Angel Meyer.

After going through a seven game losing streak, the Lady Panthers regained their confidence after defeating a conference opponent, Lowell, 1-0 at home. "I don't usually bunt so I knew that the coach needed me to get it down, and when I did, it drew in a run to help us win the game," said sophomore Mariah Huesken.

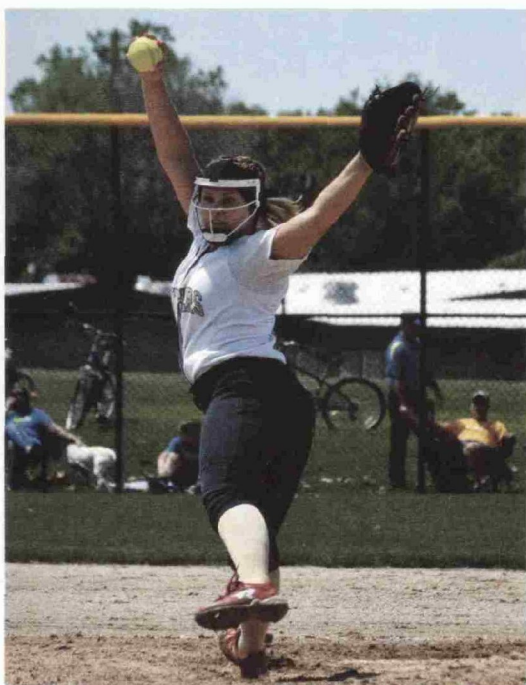
Once again, Griffith is the host for this year's sectionals. With six teams in the sectional, the games will go on for a whole week.

"When we have sectionals at home, it's a tradition to clean up the field to make it presentable for the other teams," said junior Mary Lesko.

The Panthers started sectionals off by taking a win against Calument with a score of 10-0. However, they lost to Highland in the championship game, 1-0.

Kasey Tinsley, 12

"I enjoy the high school season because it's a change of pace compared to playing during travel ball season," said sophomore Jessica Terzarial.

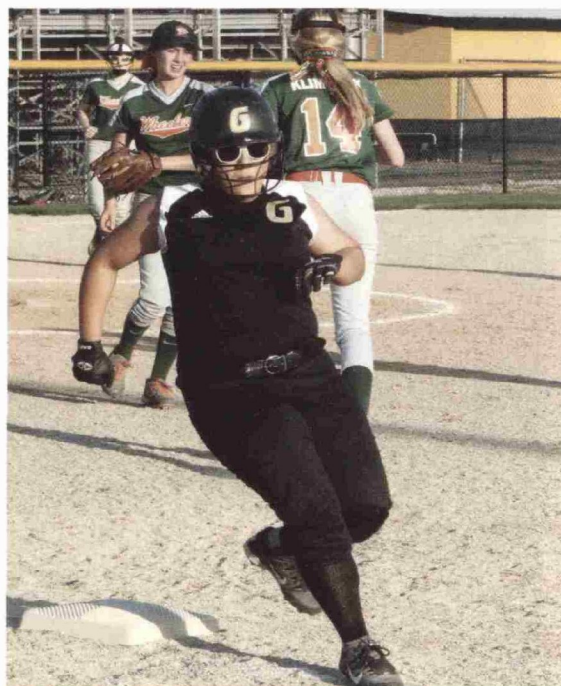


Aggressively leaping off the pitcher's mound, senior Sabrina Dodson launches the ball to her catcher. "I get a rush of energy when I strike someone out," said Dodson.

Watching a pitch come in, senior Brooklyn Richardson stares down the pitcher. "When I'm in the batters box I like to intimidate the pitcher," said Richardson.



After making solid contact with the ball, senior Tatyanna Cima de Villa sprints through first base in an effort to beat the throw. "Once I hit the ball I know I just have to put my head down and quickly run," said Cima de Villa.



TIME FLIES

by: Alexia Smith

Time flies when you're having fun, especially for sophomore Kynide Williams when she's sprinting around the black top. "When I run I automatically become energized. Seeing my teammates cheer me on made the experience even more enjoyable," said Williams. The beginning of the season began with an indoor meet against Hanover after a long two weeks of conditioning with high school track & field coaches, Jenna Berzy, Melissa Diekelmann, Grayling Gordon, David Garrett, and Anthony Zarndt.

The GHS track & field teams consisted of boys varsity and JV sprinters, girls varsity and JV sprinters, hurdles, shotput (also known as "throwing"), and discus. "Throwing helped me relieve a lot of stress and anger, and is probably the only thing that kept me sane," said freshman Rashod Shaw.

This season consisted of daily regular meets against high school track teams in the region until conference meets and sectionals. The first conference meet took place on May 2nd. Team members who performed suc-

cessfully during this meet advanced to sectionals.

During sectionals, select team members competed anticipating a "W" to bring home to "The G." "Running sectionals is always extremely competitive, but the experience is always worth it," said sophomore Jordyn Johnson. May 16th was the first day of sectionals in which senior Kayla Piper placed 3rd and threw 40 feet, 7.5 inches that resulted to her advancing to regionals.

"Seeing my teammates cheer me on made the experience even more enjoyable," said Williams.

At the closing of the year, the track season came to an end and all the members' hard work and dedication was showcased at the banquet.

The track banquet for the girls took place on Thursday, May 25, while the boys' banquet took place on Thursday, June 2. At the banquet all track members received awards, ate food, and socialized with their coaches and teammates for the last time until next year.

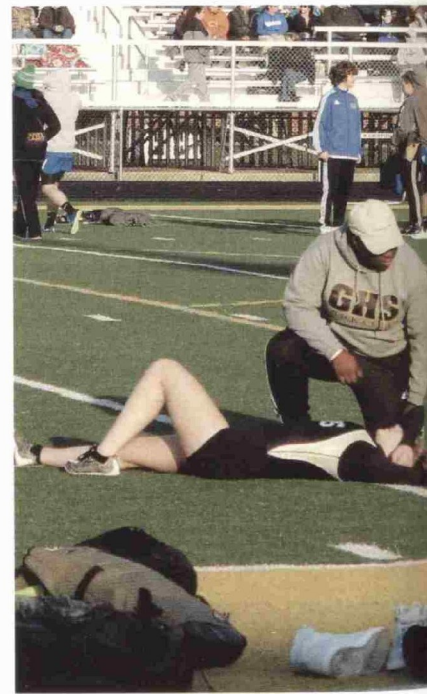
Breanna Hamilton, 12



As the baton was swiftly passed to sophomore Ernest Johnson, he took off immediately to keep the lead. "Running relay keeps me in shape and prepares me for football season," said Johnson.



Cautiously but quickly running and jumping at the same time, senior Raquel Renton competed in the Highland track meet. "I enjoy running, so hurdles were a breeze for me to get accustomed to," said Renton.



"As captain, making sure all my team members are in good shape is my first priority; however, if something unexpected happens I'm always around to help," said senior Kayla Piper.



Focused, sophomore Jayla Johnson sprinted at full speed to insure a good finishing score for her relay. "Running relay has always been my favorite part about track and helps me blow off steam and extra stress," said Johnson.



Stretching to better his performance, sophomore Myles Taylor prepared for his run. "Stretching before a meet is always essential for me, and helps me run better," said Taylor.

Varsity Boys



Row 1: Coach Gordon, Tristan Sanders, Craig Gordon, Tyler Debold, Patrick Land, Ezekiel Nettles, Jorge Robinson, JeMauri Taylor, Deondre Jarvis

Row 2: Coach Garrett, Delshaun Garner, Matthew Thomas, Saul Valencia, Tre Bubala, Sayvion Miles, Myles Taylor, Matthew Plopper, Andrew Starnes, Thomas Perez, Zechariah Winchester, Andrew Garcia, Coach Zardnt

Row 3: Wesley Meadows, Ernest Johnson, Marcus Marquand, Joshua Forrest, Quinten McToy, Cameron Gordon, Isaiah Allen, Richard Damron, Joenathan King, Kyle Fields, Tayvien Walker, Ricardo Nunez

Girls: 9-3

Boys: 9-3

Opponent: Score: Opponent: Score:

Highland	91-31	Highland	90-34
Munster	108-24	Munster	111-21
Lowell	94-28	Lowell	105-26
Hobart	106-34	K.V.	78-61
K.V.	98-40	Hobart	105-35
Highland	91-31	Highland	90-34
Hobart	106-34	Hobart	105-35
K.V.	98-40	K.V.	78-61
Lowell	94-28	Lowell	105-26
Munster	108-24	Munster	111-26

State Kayla Piper 2nd

Varsity Girls



Row 1: Jaylah Bolden, Megan Miller, Abbey Dobosz, Kynide Williams, Diana Muro, Jasmine Beamon

Row 2: Jayla Johnson, Michelle Beck, Leslie Leon-Aguilar, Macie Miller, Kirsten Edwards, Makenzie Degand-McKinney, Raquel Renton, Jordyn Johnson, Bridget Beck

Row 3: Trinity Austin, Breanna Hamilton, Kayla Piper, Tianna Harris, Megan Madrigal, Isabella Maglish, Dynahstee Moore, Emily Kruhaj, Abigail Strauch

Varsity



Row 1: Dora White, Mikaela Dragus, Laura Reid, Kayla Rooke, Catherine Brzycki, Hannah Ramirez, Joe White

Row 2: Kaiseanna Andrews, Andrea Meraz, Brittany Brummet, Lilyana Salazar, Anabel Castellanos, April Mendoza, Melanie Ramirez-Barcenas

Opponent: **Score: 1-14**

Calumet	2-3
Clark	0-5
Portage	0-5
Highland	0-5
Kankakee Valley	0-5
East Chicago Central	0-5
Lowell	0-5
Morton	3-2
Andrean	0-5
Hobart	0-5
Munster	0-5
Hammond High	1-5
Gavit	2-3
River Forest	2-3

Sectionals: 2-3

After meeting her opponent, freshman Kaiseanna Andrews runs down the line to high-five each of her teammates. "This is my first year playing tennis. At first it was difficult to learn the rules but I eventually got the hang of it," said Andrews.

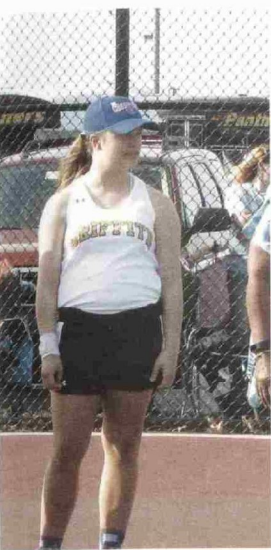


In order to warm up, the team played "Queen of the Court". This game helps decide the lineup for the upcoming match. "This was my first year playing tennis and I really enjoyed it," said freshman Melanie Ramirez-Barcenas.

"My freshman year I decided to play tennis, and I enjoyed it to where I couldn't stay away. The best thing this season is that our team has become very close by bonding," said junior Mikaela Dragus.

GAME. SET. MATCH.

by: Emily Keck & Emilia Shapiro



On March 30, the girls' tennis Whiting scrimmage was cancelled due to weather and the courts being too wet. In total, six matches were cancelled at the beginning of the season due to severe weather. These matches were against Lake Central, Bishop Noll, East Chicago Central, Morton, and the Highland Doubles Tournament. Two matches were made up later in the season; these two matches included East Chicago Central and Morton.

With only five returning players this season, the team was very young, having only one senior, Lilyana Salazar. For nine girls, this was their first year playing tennis.

"This year I decided to join tennis because I wanted to try something new, and I definitely plan on returning next season. I like how close the team is and how everyone really gets along," said sophomore Anabel Castellanos.

Every year the team receives new uniforms; however, this year the order was delayed and the team didn't receive the uniforms until their seventh match on April

25th, versus Lowell.

"Until we got our uniforms we wore our pre ordered fan shirts and when we finally got our uniforms not all of us got our skorts and got shorts instead. Now we are getting a refund and putting that money to new skorts," said freshman Brittany Brummet.

Hannah Ramirez hosted a bonfire for team bonding at her house on May 13th. The team struggled to start the fire, but once started, the team sat around the fire and talked about the season.

Senior night was held on May 15th and the team celebrated in the health room. The room was decorated with many posters. "I felt really honored because my team took the time to make me a numerous amount of posters and organized a party just for me," said Salazar.

Lilyana Salazar, 12 & Hannah Ramirez, 11



Junior Merry Galindo joins the group as they get ready for their match versus Lowell. "We all support each other and we all have a good time no matter what the score is," said Galindo.

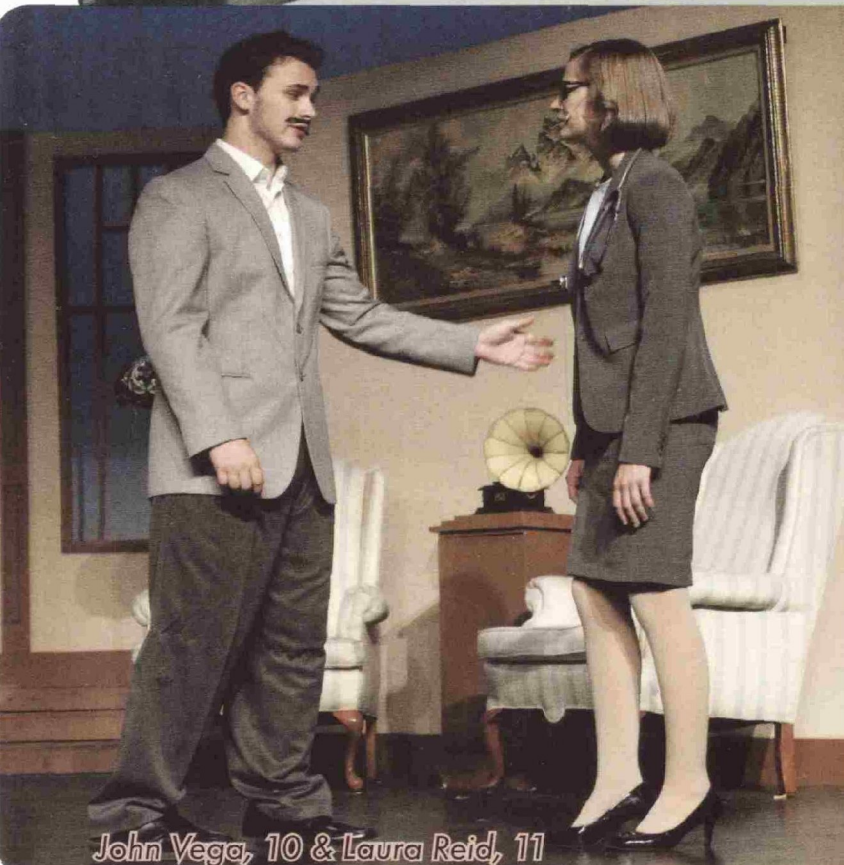
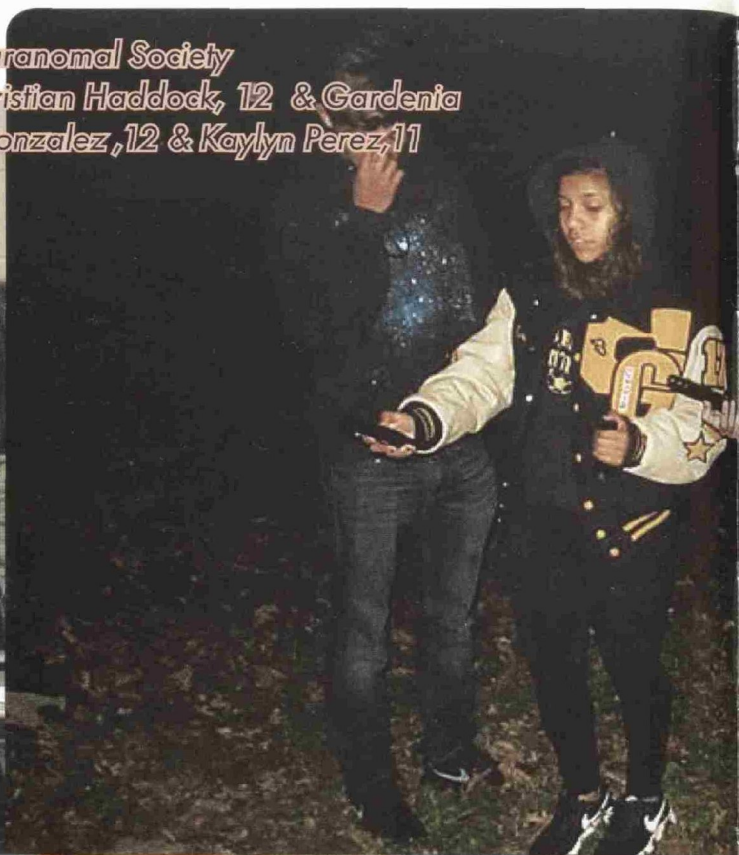
"Senior night was a great way to get the team together and enjoy yummy food. Overall, this season was a blast and I enjoyed getting to know the girls on the team," said freshman Kayla Rooke.



International Club
Madison Pearson, 9 & Liana
Boulles, 9 & Carleigh Linders, 9



Paranomal Society
Cristian Haddock, 12 & Gardenia
Gonzalez, 12 & Kaylyn Perez, 11



John Vega, 10 & Laura Reid, 11



Alexis Gonzalez, 12 & Gabe
Dudliceck, 11

COUNTLESS CLUBS

by: Taylor Grady



Griffith High School offered many unique and diverse clubs that accommodate to student's interests. Throughout the school year, there are multiple clubs to choose from to join. There are a variety of clubs such as FCCLA, (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America), student council, and DECA. They vary from Drama to Paranormal Society. Meetings are held after school, and most clubs have events. Best Buddies, a club where students are paired up with a special needs student to form a close-knit friendship, have parties outside of school for holidays and events where everyone can get to know each other better.

"Best Buddies is an amazing club. All of the buddies are very nice and I enjoy being around them. I like Mrs. D (special education) and I love having dance parties with our buddies," said sophomore Darius Cheairs.

Students that wanted to help out the community and invest their time into helping the needy, then FCCLA was for them. FCCLA was sponsored by Sara Novak and co-sponsored by Shannon Scheidel. Meetings were held on Wednesday to plan for field trips, such as going to nursing homes, or activities. Unlike the previous years, Dancing with the Panthers is now a different club, but is still associated with FCCLA.

National Honor Society is an organization that recognizes the outstanding and hard work that high school students accomplish. NHS looks at students that demonstrate excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. In order to be inducted into NHS, one must have a 3.5 cumulative GPA. If students met that requirement, then the next step was to fill out an application that shows all of the things that they were involved in, whether that be in clubs, sports, outside of school, or volunteer

work within the town of Griffith.

Paranormal Society connected with the afterworld and looked for ghosts with special equipment. Along with sponsor Officer Peter Ghrist, students went on field trips such as the Gypsy Graveyard in Crown Point and Lake County Courthouse to capture and explore ghosts. Only juniors and seniors could join Paranormal Society.

Focus Bible Study allows students to be able to talk about God and biblical principles that apply to teenager's lives. They met every other Tuesday for only an hour after school in Tracy Whittman's English room.

"I really like teaching people about God's word.

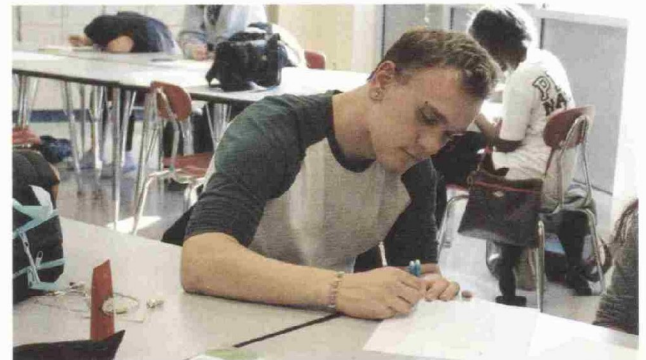
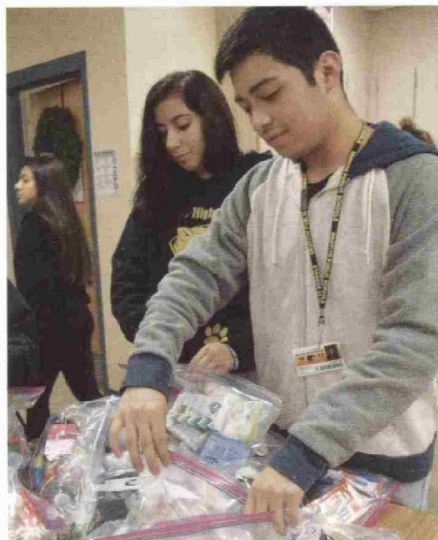
It is awesome hanging out with students and talking about the Bible. It is very encouraging and I love feeling the presence of God in a school environment. I like the idea of knowing that I can make a difference for God's Glory. It is a rewarding experience and there is nothing like it," said junior Luke Haney.

International club is a club that focuses on culture from all over the world. Students can socialize and learn about diverse backgrounds through meetings and events. It also provides students the opportunity to expand their knowledge on culture. Mostly it consists of eat-ins from various restaurants that relate to a specific holiday as well as activities. It allows students to try new foods. This year there was a new sponsor, Veronica Garcia, Spanish teacher.

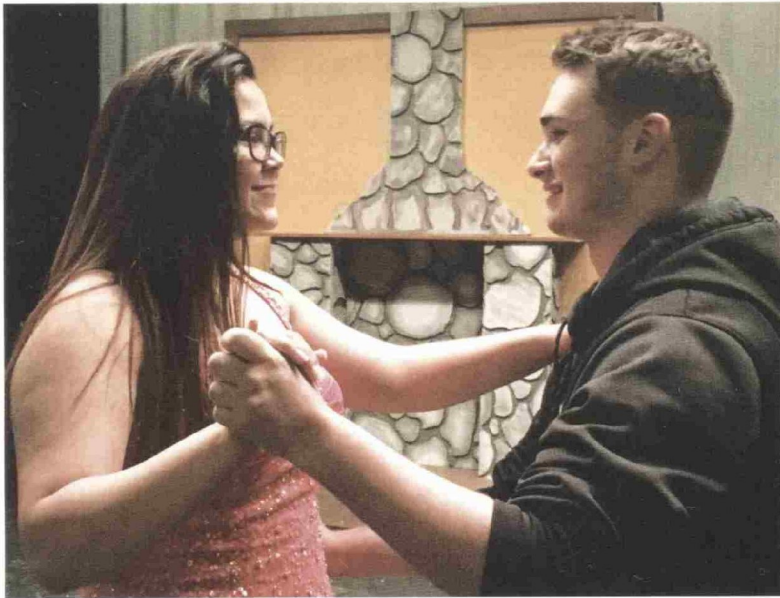
"I'm really looking forward to International club this year because we get to learn a lot about different cultures around the world. This year we're hoping to go to some cultural centers, and hopefully a lot of other new things in addition to what we have always done in the past," said junior Alexis Gardner.

"Best Buddies is an amazing club. All of the buddies are very nice and I enjoy being around them. I like Mrs. D and I love having dance parties with our buddies," said sophomore Darius Cheairs.

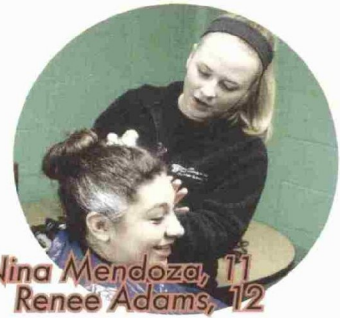
At an FCCLA club meeting, senior Emily Gonzalez and freshman Paulo Chur pack "Blessing Bags" for the homeless. "Doing something that affects other people gave me a sense of fulfillment. I'm in FCCLA because it correlates to what I want to do with the rest of my life. I want other people to know they are not forgotten, and people do care," Gonzalez said.



While in art club, junior Collin Meadows makes a Christmas tree out of old books. "I love being able to expand my art in art club, instead of just doing one piece of art in class," Meadows said.



Dancing at rehearsal, sophomore John Vega and freshmen Olivia Halley practice their routine for Cinderella. "I'm super excited for my first production. I've always wanted to join drama since I saw Willy Wonka. The choreography for this show is unique and comes naturally to me," said Halley.



Nina Mendoza, 11
Renee Adams, 12

L.i.f.e. in Drama



Jorge Robinson, 12

This is my first year in drama and I am most definitely excited. New experiences are exciting and you never know what can happen. I was casted as the Herald in *Cinderella*. I can't wait to portray the character the best I can. I'm looking forward to getting to know the people better, as the drama kids are the best group of people I've met in high school.

"I like drama because I'm constantly surrounded by my friends. I love to see how the show comes together. I'm always satisfied with how they turn out because it's so much work, and it's nice to see it all pay off for the final product."



Storm Fleming, 11



Waiting backstage, juniors Shawn Graham and Angel Meyer are waiting for their stage queues. "This will be my second year in drama and I've never loved anything more. The people and environment are better than anything imaginable," said Meyer.

In the climax of the play, junior Jesse Rosario prepares to hang his last victim, unaware of the survivor behind him. "*And Then There Were None*," was my first performance at GHS. The whole experience was thrilling and quite nerve-racking. I loved being the killer; ultimately being the bad guy was greater than anything else. The first night I got chills from the audiences reaction to the big reveal," said Rosario.



ALL HEART ON STAGE

by: Evan Queen

Behind the curtains of the Griffith auditorium's stage, there are usually around 50 kids involved in each production. Between the actors, crew, lights and sound, hair and makeup, costumes, and the band, the drama kids all unite together. The connection doesn't just lie on stage, it carried further. After every show the theatre kids threw cast parties, which everyone is welcome to. It isn't uncommon for the kids to have sleepovers before the shows and on weekends to bond and make some memories. "I'm super happy I joined drama, it's a place where everyone connects and is a family," said sophomore John Vega.

Each year the Griffith Theatre Company performs two productions. The fall production starred *And Then There Were None*, an Agatha Christie murder mystery. The show opened on November 11, through the weekend. "Drama is an amazing experience with lovely people who I can surround myself with and establish lifetime relationships," said junior Shawn Falstrom.

In the spring, the show was Rogers and Hammerstein's rendition of *Cinderella*, premiering on April 28. General admission tickets cost \$8. Students and seniors tickets at \$6. The program is more than just people putting on a show. Everyone gets to spend 24 hours at a time with each

"Over these four years, the people that I have come to see as my second family have completely shaped the person I am today," said Alyssa Skertich

other. Before the Sunday showing of *Cinderella*, the Griffith Theatre Company arranged a royal tea party, to which guests could dine with Cinderella, Prince Christopher, and the rest of the cast in Cinderella's castle. The tea party took place from 11-2 on April 30.

"Since joining drama my freshman year, the experience has been amazing. Over these four years the people that I have come to see as my family have completely shaped the person I am today. The hardest part, is getting to watch everyone grow up and having to leave so much behind once I graduate," said senior Alyssa Skertich.

On May 11, the drama department hosted their awards night. Twelve students became thespians by receiving their letter in either acting or crew. Seven students double lettered, meaning they had their acting letter, and just received their crew letter, or vice versa.

Alongside, 33 students received stars towards their letters, which is the equivalent of lettering two or more times. Juniors Nina Mendoza and Laura Reid received their honor bars by getting 60 or more points. Seniors Alyssa Skertich, Corynn Kealey, Sylvie Dowd, and Evan Queen received their honor bars and will wear their stoles around their neck at the graduation ceremony. Evan Queen was voted by the students to be honor thespian.

Drama



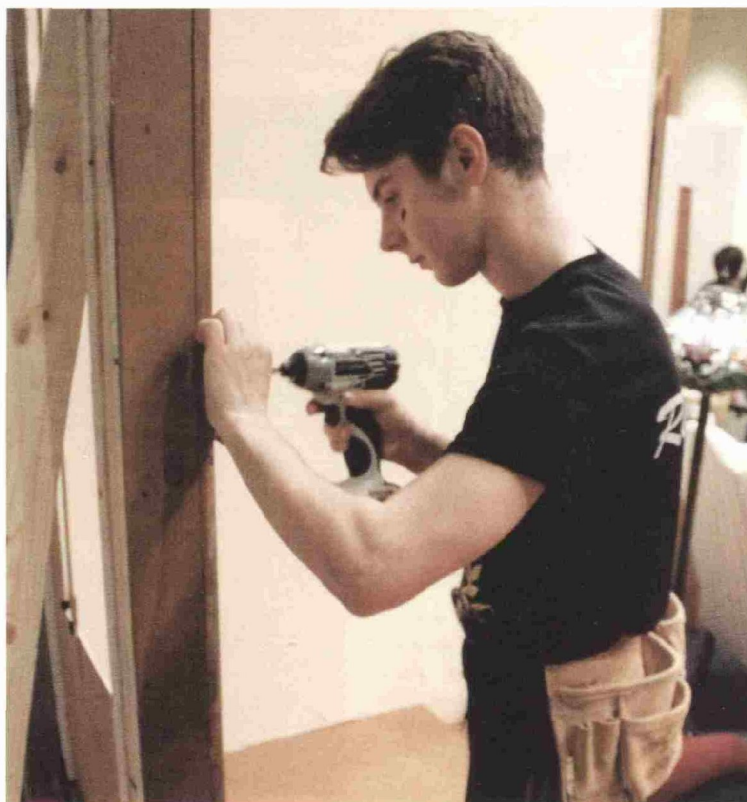
Row 1: Katie Holt, Emily Gonzales, Antonia Williams, Christine Morikis, Zack Keil, Sylvie Dowd, Corynn Kealey, Evan Queen, Alyssa Skertich, Dana Jelenski, Leanna Early, Natalie Halley, Kayla Schramm

Row 2: Kiara Miller, Sammie Rettie, Maddie Kruse, Gabby Quintanna, Leah Vuckovich, Angel Meyer, Shawn Falstrom, Cameron Bobos, Jake Diamond, Josh Bacon, Storm Fleming

Row 3: Justin Walton, Colin Meadows, Kaylyn Perez, Laura Reid, Nina Mendoza, Max McClean, Giovante Johnson, Amari Harris

Row 4: Nicole Mccarter, Jasmine Gutierrez, Molly Mills, Kiersten Collins, Zoe Diguez, Kyle Mccarter

Constructing the set, junior Trenton Pulliam is placing a piece of drywall on a frame. "Drama is my second family. The most challenging thing I've had to do was create the stone wall for 'Addams Family.' It took about six hours to complete," said Pulliam.



TIME SIGNATURE

by: Hannah Bubala &
Emilia Shapiro

The performance season of GHS's choirs started out with "Wednesday's Open Mic Nights". In the cafeteria on October 12, 2016 and November 9, 2016, choir students performed songs of their choice. After learning and rehearsing their concert sets, "Epic Choir Week" began, named by choir director Kristin Anderson. This week consisted of a toy drive, special performances by Chorale, and the Winter Choir Concert. The 2nd Annual Christmas Caroling, Hot Chocolate Drinking, Ugly Sweater Wearing, Toy Drive Charity Event took place on December 3, 2016 at Griffith First Christian Church. The choirs collected holiday baskets and toys for the Griffith Emergency Fund. Chorale appeared on WJOB radio on December 9, 2016 and at Griffith's Rotary Club on December 15. They also caroled in the elementary and high school. The first concert of the school year took place on December 7, 2016. The choirs sang various holiday songs and collaborated to perform "Hallelujah Chorus" all together.

In February, GHS Choir began fundraising. They sold

cookie dough from Great American Fundraising. "I was pleased with the dedication of the choir members with selling cookie dough. They raised enough funds for the groups to start looking at new choir attire and future activities," said Anderson.

"Our voices carried out well through the auditorium and it was nice to hear the audience's applause," said freshman Melanie Meyer.

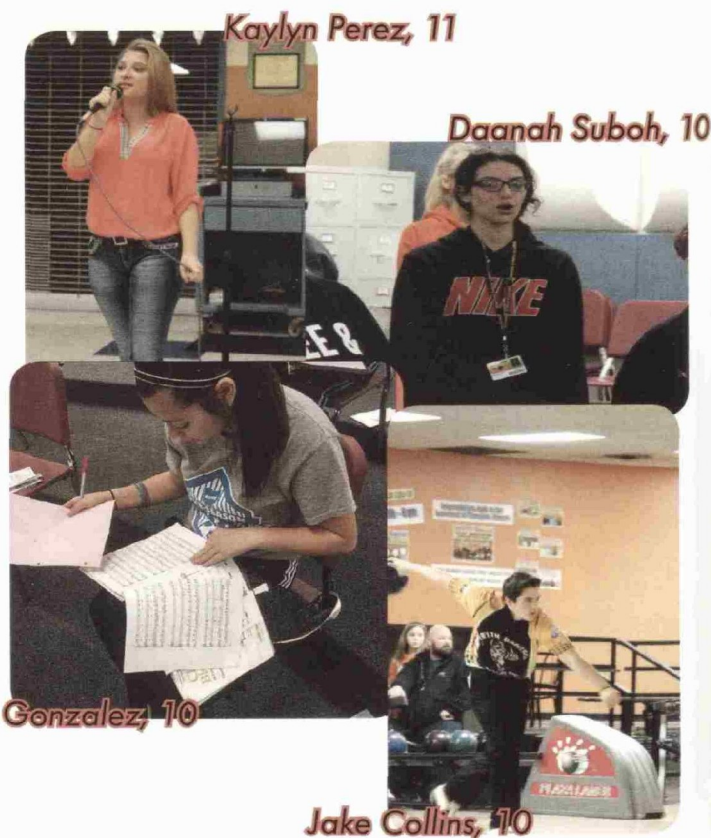
A new program that was implemented to assist Anderson with managing activities was "choir officers." "Choir officers are a student led group within the choir that help with the non-musical aspects of choir, including input on creative decisions, public relations, business management, and graphic design, to name a few," said Anderson.

On March 8, 2017, the "Music Inspires" concert was presented by the choirs. "The concert went smoothly because everyone sat and stood in their correct places. Our voices carried well through the auditorium and it was nice to hear the audience's applause," said freshman Melanie Meyer.

The choirs also hosted an awards night with senior performances on May 10, 2017 and a spring concert in Central Park.



Advanced Women's Chorus sings a "mashup" warmup with dynamics. "Being the youngest and only freshman is different, but it's special. The other girls turn into my big sisters and second family," said freshman Lia Coria.



Kaylyn Perez, 11

Daanah Suboh, 10

Tyra Gonzalez, 10

Jake Collins, 10

Advanced Women's Chorus



Row 1: Madalyn Banhart, Mercedes SanMiguel, Lily Desler
Row 2: Julia Medrano, Lia Coria, Gabriella Hamm, Jordyn Johnson
Row 3: Jenny Chur, Delia Booker, Leanna Early, Monet Mitchell, Kristin Anderson

Chorale



Row 1: Kristin Anderson, Emma Loomis, Deleah Walker, Courtney Smith, Amari Harris, Nina Mendoza
Row 2: Laura Reid, Sylvie Dowd, Rachel Kruhaj, Jorge Robinson, Ali Schoon, Kaylyn Perez
Row 3: Cameron Bobos, Ciara Villarruel, Shawn Falstrom, Kevin Novak, Adrian Rodriguez, Thomas Perez, Shawn Graham

Concert Choir



Row 1: Kristin Anderson, Nijah Reid, Angel Lomax, Abby Perkovich, Dominic Burosh, Andria Johnson
Row 2: Jackie Bobos, Lyanna Obregon, Tyra Gonzalez, Ashley Timm, Melanie Meyer, Kavresha Walls
Row 3: Hannah Bubala, Mikiyah Scott, Ivanna Carrera, Caiya Wright, Alyssa Dragomer, Jessica High, Tysha' Smith, Carmen Kellum, Tyler Oldendorf
Row 4: Naida Ridge, Madison Pearson, Kayla Slachta, Jalen Torres, Alonzo Cruz, Tim Lawson, Danny Smith

Symphonic Choir



Row 1: Lena Mansour, Mikaela Dragus, Emily Marsh, Vanessa Pena
Row 2: Asia Pedrini, Diamond Arthur, Rabekka Rex, Brianna Anderson, Kristin Anderson
Row 3: Kirsten Edwards, Cassie Barnaby, Nina Stostic, Daanah Suboh
Row 4: Micaela Weeks, Jeremy Paganelli, Jesse Rosario, Mark Whitlock, Paige Borowski



Chorale, directed by Kristin Anderson, sings their concert set to the audience's applause at the Winter Choir Concert. "My favorite song of the set was 'Without a Song' because the harmonies and our notes clashing sounded really nice," said junior Deleah Walker. "Every section did what they were supposed to do, and we really enjoyed ourselves."

Color Guard



Row 1: Paige Allen, Samantha Snell, Nina Mendoza

Row 2: Amari Harris, Emily Pawlicki, Leanna Early, Kayla Schramm, Alexia Smith

Marching Band



Row 1: Dynahstee Moore, Kaelynn Church, Elizabeth Lapointe, Abbegail Perkovich, Gabrielle Quintana, Madeline Kruse, Stephon Murphy, Reanna Rex, Hanna Kountz, Ekaterina Adkins, Briana Quintana, Antonia Williams

Row 2: Kayla Piper, Charles Murphy, Donovan Santa Maria Paulo Chur, Samantha Rettie, Christian Raglin, Exavior Zeiler, Julia Carillo, Zoe Diegez, Dara Meece, ly-Lyse McGee

Row 3: Debbie Korak, Emily Gonzales, Katie Holt, Molly Mills, Andrew Shelton, Joshua Cavazos, Ashley Ramirez, Liana Boulles

Row 4: Corynn Kealey, Jesus Pantoja, Giovantae Johnson, John Vega, Luke Haney, Xavier Sopher, Ryan Dudliceck, Daniel Welch, Alyssa Skertich

Symphonic Band



Row 1: Stephon Murphy, Reanna Rex, Hanna Kountz, Ekaterina Adkins, Brianna Quintana, Antonia Williams, Alyssa Skertich

Row 2: Alexia Smith, Dynahstee Moore, Kaelynn Church, Elizabeth Lapointe, Madeline Kruse, Gabrielle Quintana, Samantha Snell

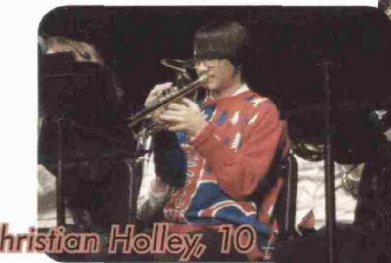
Row 3: Ashley Ramirez, Charles Murphy, Kayla Piper, Samantha Rettie, Donovan Santa Maria, Christian Raglin, Paulo Chur

Row 4: Andrew Shelton, Dara Meece, Exavior Zeiler, Julia Carillo, Zoe Diegez, ly-Lyse McGee, Abbegail Perkovich, Liana Boulles

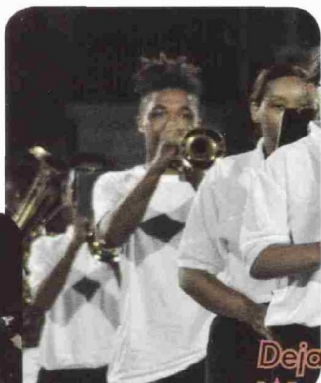
Row 5: Corynn Kealey, Daniel Welch, Katie Holt, Molly Mills, Emily Gonzales, Jesus Pantoja, Alvineice Thomas

Row 6: Rayshon Young, Xavier Sopher, John Vega, Giovantae Johnson, Ryan Dudliceck, Luke Haney

Beside her fellow color guard members, junior Amari Harris braced herself for the first performance of the season. "Before the very first game, I was extremely nervous because I wanted to make a good impression," said Harris.

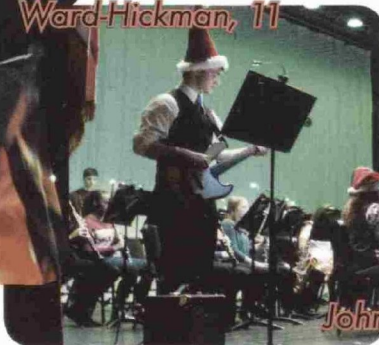


Christian Holley, 10



Dejaunice Ward-Hickman, 11

Nina Mendoza, 11



John Vega, 10

SHOW STOPPERS

by: Alexia Smith

Here at GHS, one of the many extra-curricular activities include band. With band, comes a string of other inside bands, activities, concerts, and performances. In the music department, directed by Debbie Korak, there are several bands which consist of symphonic band, concert band, marching band, jazz band, pep band, pit band, and beginning band.

The first encounter the band played was during football season. During half-time, the marching band took the field after the Pantherettes performed and played three songs accompanied by the Color Guard team. This year the marching band performed, "My Songs Know What You Did In The Dark", "Light My Fire", and "All of The Lights". While the band performed their pieces, the color guard performed with flags and other props that they practiced with that corresponded to the music.

After football season had ended, symphonic band, concert band, beginning band, and jazz band began to prepare for upcoming concerts while pit band began to prepare to play in shows with the drama department. All while preparing for concerts, symphonic band also prepared for pep band: a mandatory admittance within the symphonic band, where symphonic band members play at the boys' and girls' basketball

games. "Being able to play at basketball games and pump up the crowd was definitely my favorite part of pep band, especially since you get in for free," said freshman Rashod Shaw. Throughout the year there are three concerts where all bands attend, and several other concerts where only the symphonic band attend, including: Valparaiso Small Bands Festival,

Valparaiso Chinese Fall Festival, ISSMA, and Honors Band. The first concert of the year is the Winter Concert, which took place on December 13. At the concert, all three bands played accompanied by the Jazz Band.

The band also had a end of the year concert on May 3, where symphonic band, concert band, and beginning band all play conjoined. "I enjoy playing with all the bands conjoined because you always have someone there to help you out if you get lost in the music," said freshman Abbigail Perkovich.

The last encounter with the band for the year, is in the summer, at Central Park on May 20th, where the symphonic band plays while the GHS choir sings. "The end of the year concert is my favorite part of band because you really get to reflect on how much you've grown as a musician," said sophomore Jeremiah Luvert.

"The end of the year concert is my favorite part of band because you reflect on how much you've grown as a musician," said sophomore Jeremiah Luvert.



Focused, freshman Ryan Dudlicek stood alert and attentive to ensure not messing up. "Being one of the youngest players in Symphonic Band is overwhelming at times, however I love that I am able to put my heart into the music," said Dudlicek.



"Being a senior in band right now is bittersweet because I've been playing my whole life; however, I'm ready to move on to bigger and better things," said senior Kayla Piper as she played in her last Winter Concert at the high school on December 13th.

THE LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY CLUBS

by: Damian Villalpando

Two out of the many clubs at GHS are paranormal society, and the robotics team. While each group is very different, they are similar in the way they attract curious students to a very interesting and enlightening subject.

Paranormal society focuses on the occult, and having faith in spirits and ghosts, while robotics involves building and programming. The paranormal club at GHS is one of the largest clubs at the school; however, the robotics team is much smaller, only consisting of nine people. The paranormal society did investigations at over thirteen different places, including the Lake County Jailhouse. The robotics team has had multiple tournaments this year, including one in Griffith, Lafayette, Elkhart, and the state tournament in Crawfordsville. "The first tournament did not go as we had hoped; however, now we know what we need to work on. The robot started to break because of static build up, but we fixed that," said senior Luke Reid.

The robotics team is sponsored by Dan Reid and Gracia Dudlicek, while the paranormal society is sponsored by

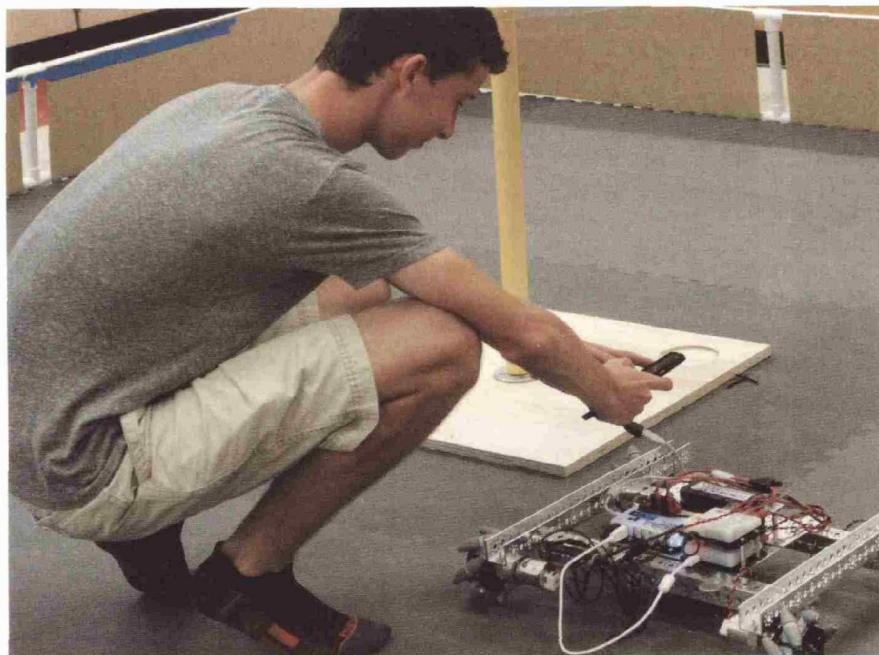
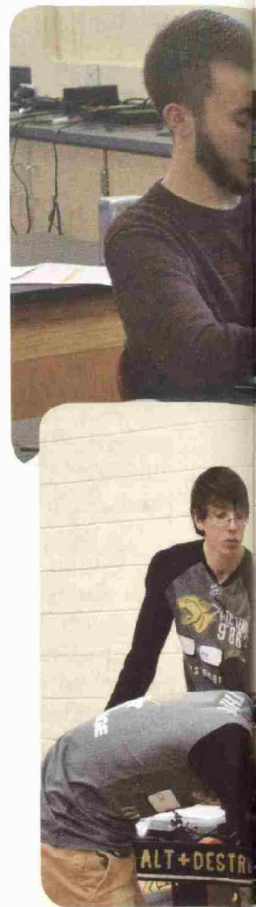
Officer Peter Ghrist. Many students at GHS would argue that the paranormal society is the most exciting club, as its constantly taking trips to paranormal sites all over. "My favorite trip was when we went to the auditorium.

We found a lot of evidence, and it was cool because it was in our own school," said senior Hunter Conaghan.

"I enjoy the fact that I get to make my own combinations and tinker with the bots to make them work the way I want," said Daniel Welch.

However, the robotics team is also exciting, as they are constantly designing and testing new robots with various functions daily. "I joined robotics mainly to learn tools and different communications that the robot can have. I enjoy the fact that I get to make my own combinations and tinker with the bots to make them work the way I want," said junior Daniel Welch. The robotics team made two robots which served two

different functions. One of the robots plays a game called "Velocity Vortex", in which one of the goals was to score by throwing balls into a center vortex during a thirty second autonomus period, and a one and a half minute driver period.

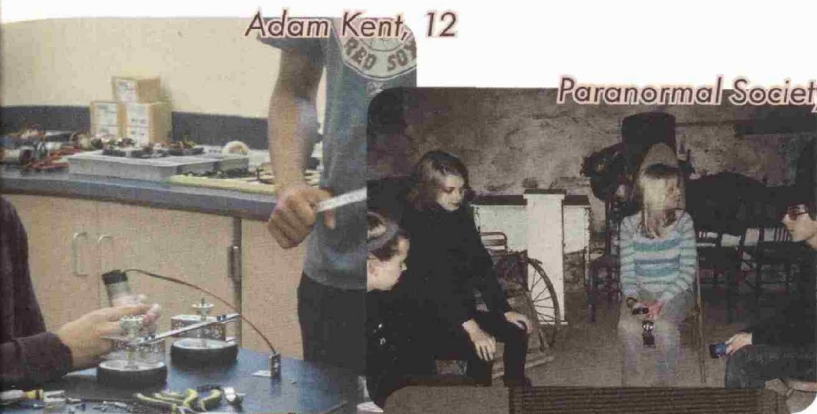


To test the robot with a phone, junior Jake Diamond moves the robot's wheels. "We were testing out the mecanum wheels which are able to move sideways. I like how robotics is a great way to express creativity with today's technology," said Diamond.



At Gypsy Graveyard, junior Matthew Yanez listens for signs of activity with an EVP. "Paranormal Society is actually interesting because the way I can research with it, as there are limitations. It ties to my life with past experiences," said Yanez.

Adam Kent, 12



Paranormal Society



Robotics Team

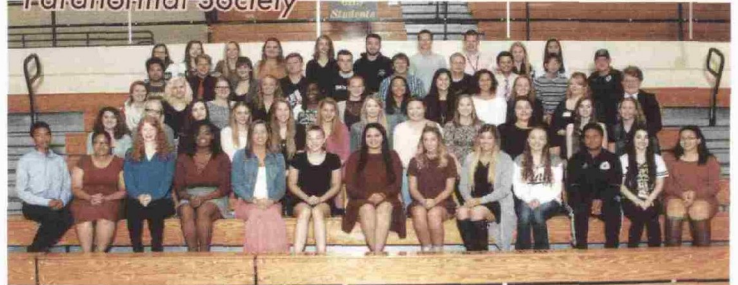
Leah Vuckovich, 11

Robotics Team



Row 1 w Luke Reid, Nathan Klingensmith, Cristian Haddock, Jake Diamond, Gabe Dudliceck, Adam Kent, Stephanie Lester, Daniel Welch, Ryan Dudliceck

Paranormal Society



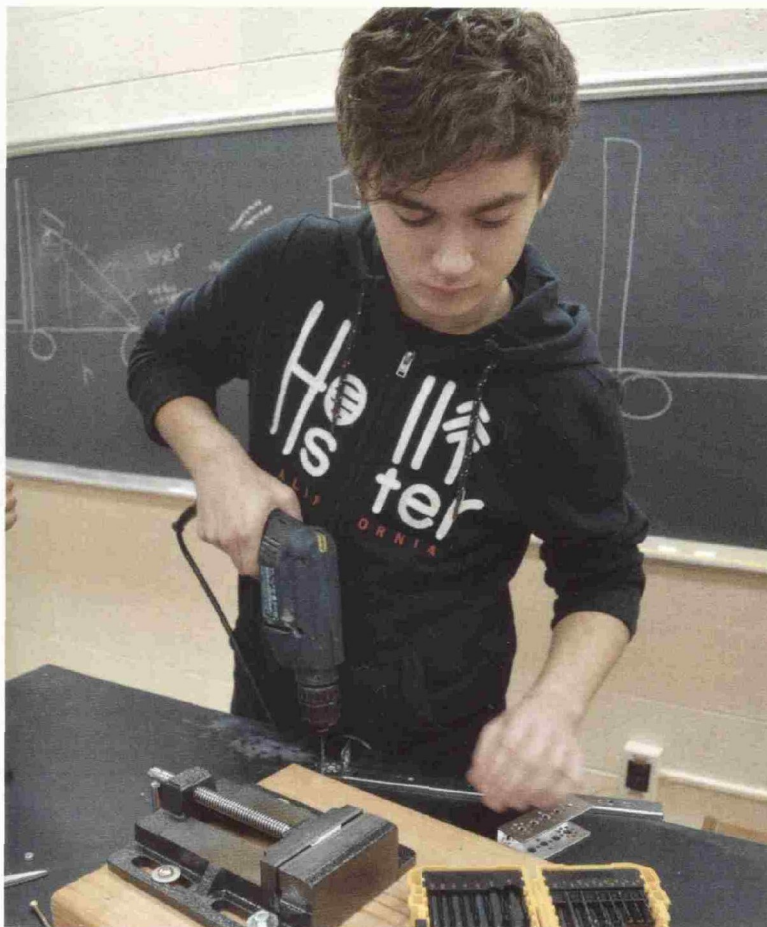
Row 1: Zack Keil, Kiara Miller, Dara Meece, Antonia Williams, Chyna Rex, Abby Strauch, Natalie Halley, Renee Mierzwa, Christine Morikis, Rachel Deck, Matthew Alvarez, Merry Galindo, Mikaela Dragus

Row 2: Megan Wilson, Amber Grubish, Asia Pedrini, Lindsay Krajnik, Angel Meyer, Kaylyn Perez, Leah Vukovich, Leanna Early, Dana Jelinski, Gabby Hamm, Sam Pelot, Courtney Smith

Row 3: Emily Pawlicki, Hollie Witvoet, Kylie Maloney, Trinity Austin, Deleah Walker, Bridget Beck, Lilyana Salazar, Megan Madrigal, Bella Maglish, Michelle Beck, Kayla Schramm, Trevor Sheffield

Row 4: Giovantae Johnson, Shawn Falstrom, Storm Fleming, Zack Steele, Zack Brownd, Hunter Conaghan, Trevor Losiniecki, Julian Rutherford, Thomas Perez, Peter Ghrist.

Row 5: Tatum Josephson, Linzie Bytnar, Erica Ward, Alexis Gonzalez, Corynn Kealy, Adam Kent, Sam Stassin, Ben Jacobs, Alexis Gardner, Haley Gearhart



"I like that robotics is a realistic problem solving activity. It's very equal, as there isn't any heirarchy and the creativity is entirely up to the user. Everyone is their own 'boss'," said junior Gabe Dudliceck.

Sitting, juniors Asia Pedrini and Shawn Falstrom watch the room for signs of the paranormal. "In the auditorium we used special equipment to communicate with the paranormal," said Falstrom. The paranormal society uses EKG meters and heat sensitive flashlights to detect spirits.



Before the event started, junior Collin Meadows paints senior Christine Morikis face above her eye. "I wanted my face painted to get rainbow because it was my teams' color. I enjoyed that I was able to help raise money for the Riley's kids," said Morikis.

Working the fun fair booth at the St. Baldricks event, sophomores Brianna Anderson, Tyra Gonzalez, and Dayjah Robinson prepared the table. "Since it was my first time, I wanted to be involved in such a great cause," said Anderson.



Amanda Haley, 10



Haley Gearhart, 11

At the Dancing with the Panthers event, junior Ali Schoon is teaching a dance. "Teaching the dance was very exhausting but totally worth it. Everyone was so energized during and after the routine. I am so thankful I had the opportunity to teach the routine to a great crowd of people," said Schoon.



FCCLA



Row 1: Mary Lesko, Christine Morikis, Shannon Scheidel, Dana Jelenski, Ben Jacobs, Ali Schoon

Row 2: Keith Hernandez, Zackary Brownd, Emmanuel Aguirre, Renee Adams, Brooklyn Richardson, Lilyana Salazar, Erin Escorza, Antonia Williams, Dara Meece, Kayla Slachta, Ivanna Carrera, Emma Loomis, Angel Lomax

Row 3: Erica Ward, Reta Haddad, Grace Opinker, Haley Greep, Delia Booker, Stephanie Lester, Rhiannon Banks, Julianne Long, Abbey Dobosz, Ashley Ramirez, Jasmine Valdez, Amelia Mitchell, Kynide Williams, Andria Johnson

Row 4: Gabrielle Quintana, Tyra Gonzalez, Deleah Walker, Tatum Johnson, Merry Galindo, Kayla Rooke, Taylor Grady, Makiyah Perry-Bell, Ryan Jelenski, Caroline Brown, Emilia Shapiro, Hannah Bubala, Dayjah Robinson, Darea Warner, Amanda Haley, Alexis Gonzalez

Row 5: Jennifer Chur, Melanie Vera, Gabriella Hamm, Monet Mitchell, Sara Mehisen, Catherine Brzycki, Jaclyn Bobos, Haley Gearhart, Leslie Leon-Aguilar, Jacob Diamond, Shawn Falstrom, Jessica Terzarial, Macie Miller, Emily Gonzalez

Row 6: Morgan Willis, Kaylen Long, Kacie Kruhaj, Trinity Austin, Alexia Smith, Brianna Anderson, Dynahstee Moore, KaiSeanna Andrews, Lia Coria, Luke Reid, Jaz'Myne Alvarez, Pablo Chur, Sarah Thomas, Olivia Halley, Paige Zoran

Row 7: Haylie Keene, Camryn Sinars, Ashely Trice, Yamia Smith, Jessica Lopez, Ariana Muniz, Brittany Brummet, Thomas Perez, Leah Vuckovich, Hollie Witvoet, Mikaela Dragus, Zachary Hilgeman, Matthew McInerney

MINUTE FOR RILEY

by: Taylor Grady

FCCLA, also known as Family, Career, Community, Leaders of America was a club that helped encourage students to give back to the community. This year Sara Novak, FACS department, sponsored the club with Shannon Scheidel, co-sponsor. FCCLA is all about helping the community. Students devoted their time and volunteered at various places as well as raised money for different organizations. Students went on a field trip to the humane society to help the animals. While at the humane society, students painted rooms and cleaned up the litter. "I like how our little contribution to the animal shelter helped make it look more calm and an open place for animals to be until they find their forever home," said junior Mary Lesko.

Students also volunteered for the St. Baldricks event which is an organization to raise money for childhood cancer. One group of five students worked the fun fair booth. There was another group of two that worked the bake sale. Scheidel worked the Northwest Indiana Cancer Kids booth. "Seeing all the kids dancing and being able to experience an event that raises a lot of

money for kids with cancer is amazing. I loved seeing kids and adults shave their head as well," said Scheidel.

The club hosted their second annual dance-a-thon for Riley's Children Hospital on Saturday, April 8th, in the fieldhouse. Having the event in the spring instead

"Seeing all the kids dancing and being able to experience an event that raises a lot of money for kids with cancer is amazing," said Scheidel.

of the fall allowed more time to prepare. The theme this year was colors to incorporate the groups colors. Dancing with the Panthers's goal was to raise a certain amount of money for Riley's Children Hospital. Our goal for this year was \$7,000 and in order to achieve the goal, we sold t-shirts, baked goods and more. In order to attend the fundraiser, students had to raise \$100 per group. The beginning half from 12-3 p.m. of the fundraiser was for the public. There were games, food, prizes and a bounce house. The remaining half from

7-10 p.m. was for high school students only. Riley's kids were invited to come talk about what they endured while at the hospital. At the end of the night, FCCLA committee officers revealed the total amount of money we raised which totaled to be \$5,124.

A TIME TO HELP

by: Lilyana Salazar

Student Council is a club that consists of students to represent each of the four grade levels of high school. Their purpose was to plan school activities, fundraise, and host charity events. The officers included seniors Bella Maglish, president, Abbey Dobosz, vice president, and Michelle Beck, secretary. The junior officers were Trinity Austin, treasurer, and Grace Szymanski, historian. The club continued to be sponsored by Jenna Berzy, social studies teacher.

The club always sets up the decorations for the homecoming dance each year. The theme was "Alice in Wonderland." This year the club ran into a problem with the power. "I was expecting to finish decorating early, but we weren't able to use the hot glue gun. It took a long time to tape all the papers on the walls," said freshman Jason Miller.

Every year the club decides to host a party, this year the party was held around Christmas. Members wore their ugly Christmas sweaters to school and stayed after to enjoy pizza and drinks with the rest of the club. "At the party we made gifts for all the teachers for teacher appreciation day. The gift included pencils, candy and hand sanitizer," said freshman

Emily Kruhaj.

The Heartland Blood Center teamed up with Student Council to host the annual Griffith High School Blood Drive. This event occurred on January 23rd. In order to donate a student had to have their parents consent if

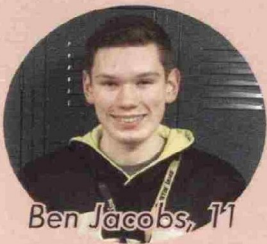
they were a minor, weigh at least 110 pounds, have a minimum amount of iron, etc. Mem-

bers were encouraged to work the blood drive. Some helped the students sign in, others passed out flyers to inform students what will happen once they donate, and others guided students to the snack area after they donated. "I worked the blood drive for a couple hours during the day as an escort. I had to help people walk from the donating table to the food area," said sophomore Macie Miller.

The annual "smooches" fundraiser began to be advertised in February. Students had a week and a half to buy a pink notecard that they could customize and send to other students. Each message comes with a sucker in the shape of lips for Valentine's Day. Students could buy two smooches for one dollar.

"At the party we made gifts for all the teachers for teacher appreciation day. The gift included pencils, candy, and hand sanitizer," said freshman Emily Kruhaj.

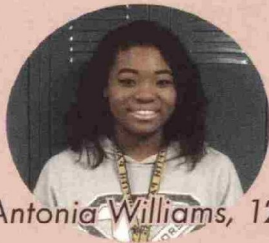
Why join?



Ben Jacobs, 11

"I enjoy Student Council because they always host food drives to help others in need. Also, it will look good for my college applications next year. I love being involved in a lot of activities in school. It helps me meet new people too."

"I have been a part of Student Council for about two years now. I joined my sophomore year of high school because I wanted to be involved in more of the school's activities and events. Student Council is how I met some of my close friends."



Antonia Williams, 12



"I was in the gym all day providing students with drinks and sugary snacks," said junior Sam Stassin. With his homework in his lap, Stassin waits for students who have donated blood to come to the snack area.

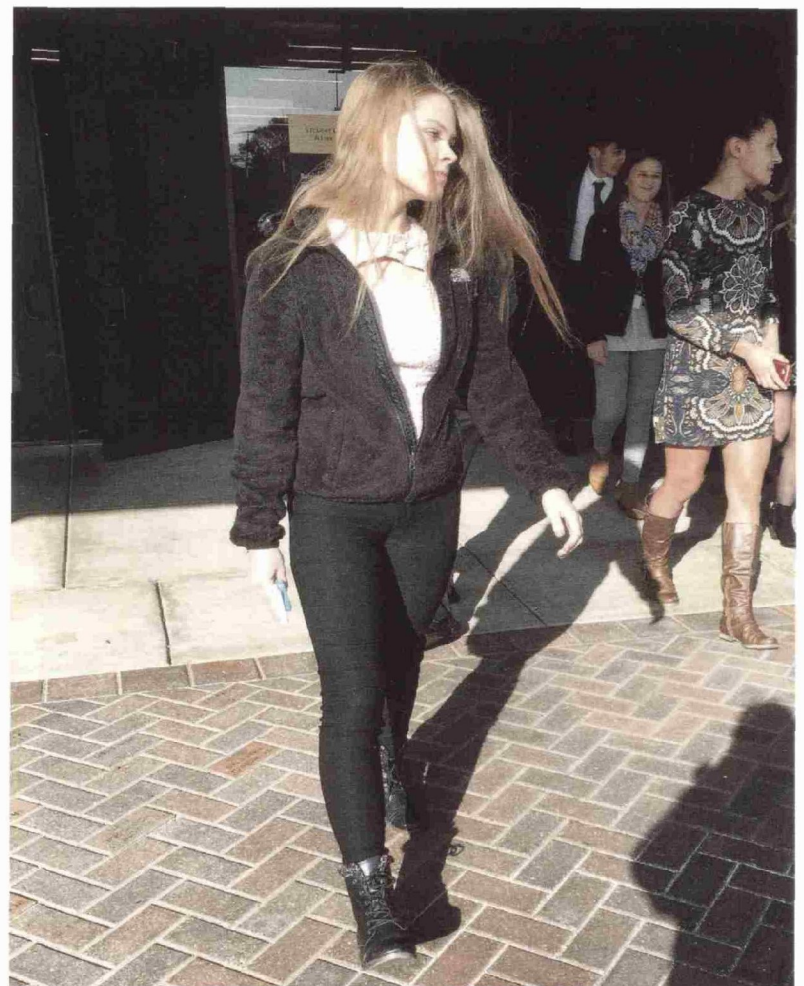


In order to donate to Honor Flight Chicago, freshman Nayeli Vazquez puts her change into the Penny Wars jar. "Student Council allows me to help make the school a better place. I try to participate in every activity I can," said Vazquez.

Walking out of Purdue Calumet, junior Molly Bradford flips her hair out of her face after listening to a lecture at the World Conference Affair. "Although the topic wasn't really interesting, I enjoyed meeting new people and doing a ton of activities with them," said Bradford.

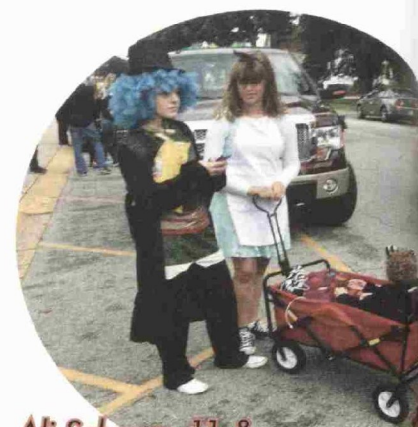


Patiently waiting to be called on, freshman Kavresha Walls continues to raise her hand so her ideas will be heard at the meeting. "I love to put my ideas on the table and debate them," said Walls.





Students from the class of 2017 walk in the parade to show off the float they built. "Showing off the float that we all worked hard on was amazing because we all put a lot of time into it," said Rachel Deck.



Ali Schoon, 11 & Hannah Ramirez, 11

Freshmen Class Council



Row 1: Brittany Brummet, Kylee Taylor, Emily Keck, Jaclyn Bobos, Caroline Brown
Row 2: Hannah Bubala, Emilia Shapiro, Catherine Brzycki, Jason Miller
Row 3: Kayla Rooke, Ryan Jelenski, Curtis Carter, Jenna Dye, Shannon Schiedel

Sophomore Class Council



Row 1: Michael Worosz, Julianne Long, Brooke Rassel, Stephanie Lester
Row 2: Alexia Smith, Dynahstee Moore, Nina Cima de Villa, Kynide Williams, Haley Greep, Reta Haddad, Ashley Trice
Row 3: Jenna Brown, Jessica Terzari, Lauren Atkinson, Rhiannon Banks, Grace Opinker, Jonathon Vasilak

Junior Class Council



Row 1: Jake Diamond, Thomas Perez, Ali Schoon, Ben Jacobs
Row 2: Cameron Bobos, Sam Stassin, Laura Reid, Deleah Walker, Becca Flores, Merry Galindo, Leah Vuckovich, Hannah Ramirez
Row 3: Julian Rutherford, Erica Ward, Trinity Austin, Leslie Leon-Aguilar, Storm Fleming, Alexis Gardner, Shawn Falstrom

Senior Class Council



Row 1: Gabby Hamm, Dana Jelenski, Matt McInerney, Lilyana Salazar
Row 2: Rachel Deck, Alexis Gonzalez, Bridget Beck, Denny Colomes
Row 3: Rachel Kruhaj, Keith Hernandez, Michelle Beck, Abbey Dobosz
Row 4: Natalie Halley, Corynn Kealey, Dara Meece

REPRESENTING TIME

by: Jake Collins

Freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors are all part of a select group of students that represent their grade level. Class council members are not just picked to be in the group, they are voted by students here at GHS.

Freshman class council did not have officers this year, but they voted for next year's officers for sophomore class council at the end of the school year. The freshman did not have much responsibility in their class council compared to all of the other classes. The freshmen were in charge of building their float for the homecoming parade.

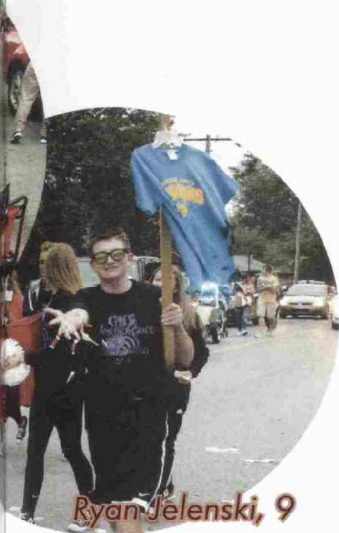
The sophomores had more responsibility to take care of. They were held accountable for planning the turnabout dance that was held at Avalon Manor. They also helped pick the soundtrack for the music at the dance. The officers for sophomore class council included president Julianne Long, vice president Stephanie Lester, treasurer Brooke Rassel, and secretary Michael Worosz.

Junior class council got to plan the biggest, most formal dance at Griffith: Prom. They picked the theme, picture background, and the colors of the decorations at the dance. "We all sat down as a group and just sort of threw ideas out there for songs and the theme of prom. The final choices were voted on by all of us," said junior Sam Stassin.

The class council officers for the juniors were president Ali Schoon, vice president Thomas Perez, secretary Jacob Diamond, and treasure, Ben Jacobs.

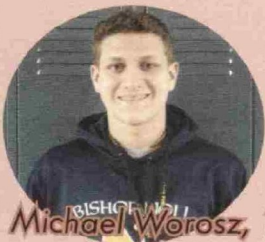
Finally, the senior class council was represented by officers president Dana Jelenski, vice president Matt McInerney, treasurer Lilyana Salazar, and secretary Gabby Hamm. The seniors were responsible for planning the senior banquet and they also did senior superlatives. "It's a strange feeling to be graduating, I'm very glad to be moving on to new things and having my own independence, but it's devastating that I will be leaving the people that I have spent my last 12 years with in school," said senior Alexis Gonzales.

"We all sat down as a group and threw ideas out there for songs and the theme. The final choices were voted on by all of us," junior Sam Stassin.



Ryan Jelenski, 9

10th vs. 11th



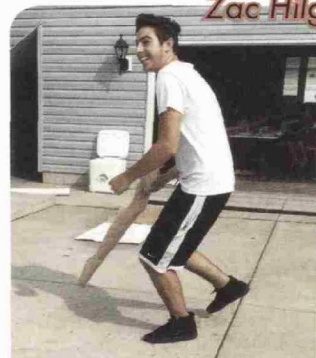
Michael Worosz, 10

"Sophomore class council is something that I really enjoy. It feels nice to feel involved with the school with all of the activities we do. We helped organize the turnabout dance and we also helped pick the soundtrack that would be played at the dance."

"Compared to sophomore class council, junior class council has a lot more responsibility. You are responsible for a lot more, but all of the things we do are great. We planned prom which was the biggest thing for me, and we also won the float building contest."



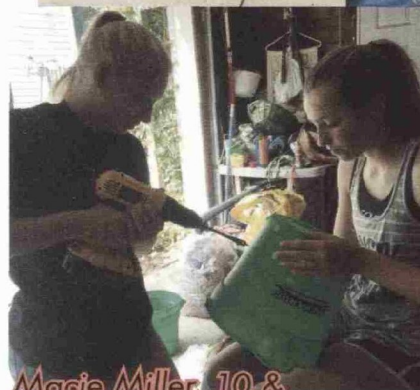
Leah Vuckovich, 11



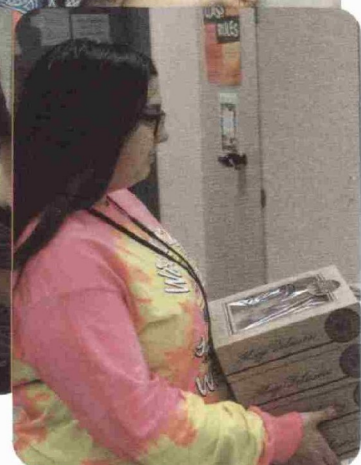
Zac Hilgeman, 12



Rebecca Flores, 11,
Merry Galindo, 11 &
Gabby Quintana, 11



Macie Miller, 10 &
Lauren Atkinson, 10

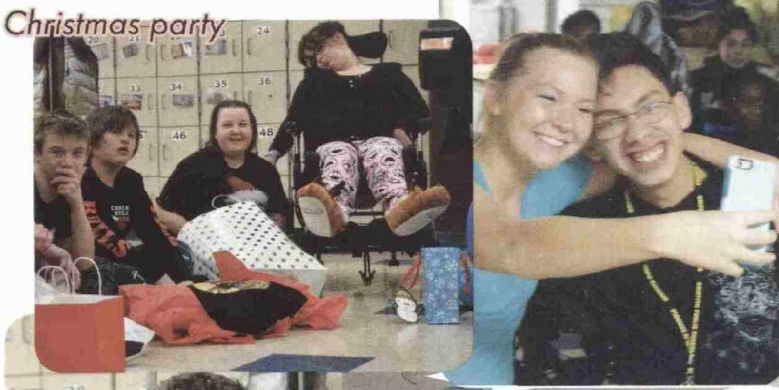


Brittany Brummet, 9

Dana Jeleski, 12 & Jose Baldof, 10

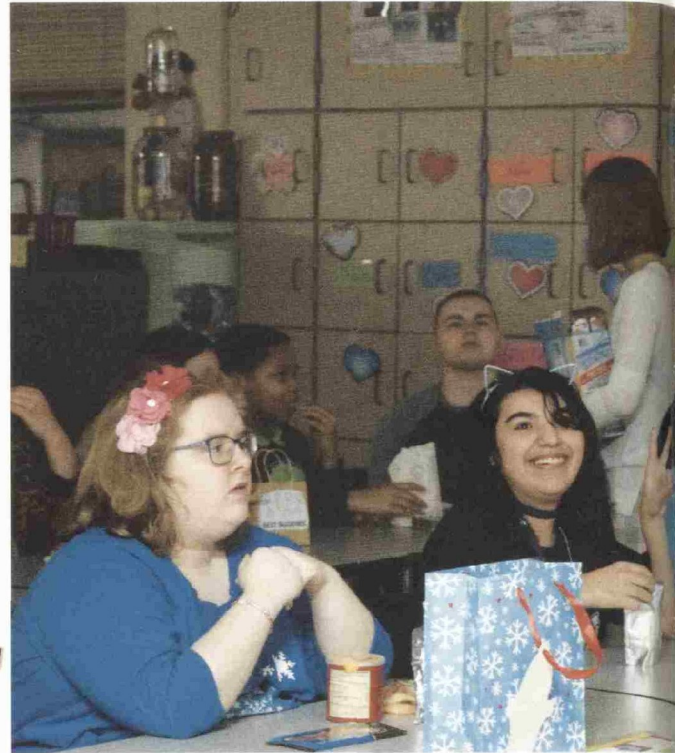
Enjoying *Storks* the movie, senior Hannah Villa sits with her friend Andrea. "I loved watching this movie with all my Best Buddies friends, we all had a great time," said Villa.

Christmas party



Best Buddies meeting

Jake Diamond, 11 & Nick George, 8



Meet my buddy



Courtney Smith, 11

"Dante and I have a great time whenever we hangout. Usually at least three times a week I go to his house and we play many video games such as Minecraft. We also enjoy watching Disney movies together. We get along great, I'm lucky to have him."

"Courtney is the best buddy anyone could ask for. She always makes me laugh and we have a great time when we're together. Courtney makes me so happy and it helps me to enjoy Best Buddies so much more. She's one of a kind."



Dante Bridwell, 8



Before the Thanksgiving feast, sophomore Darius Cheirs tells his classmates what he is thankful for. "I told my classmates that I was thankful for my best buddy Skylar," said Cheirs.

MEET "hOUR" BUDDIES

by: Erica Ward

This past year Best Buddies expanded their number in members by almost half. July 22-25 juniors Laura Reid (vice president) and Erica Ward (president) attended the Best Buddies Leadership Conference at Indiana University in Bloomington. The four days they were there were filled with class sessions and ways to have a successful chapter which was led by their program manager, Jessica Glaze, from Indianapolis.

"The Best Buddies Leadership Conference was all I expected out of it and more. From the amazing people I met, to the new skills I learned that I brought back to my chapter, it truly made an impact on my life," said junior Laura Reid.

The school year began with a speed matching party in Melissa Diekelmann's room. Everyone was welcome to come and get to know one another by talking and answering simple questions in a matter of five minutes, then they moved on to the next person.

Officers were chosen by our faculty advisors, Nurse Jennifer Kocon and special education teachers Melissa

Diekelmann and Amanda Madison. The officers were as followed: Erica Ward (president), Laura Reid (vice president), Skylar Davenport (secretary), and Emma Loomis (treasurer). This group was student led by the officers.

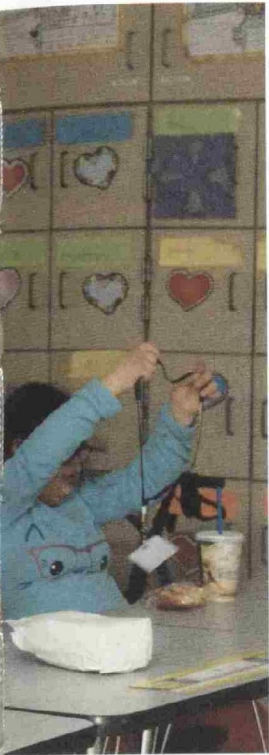
The role of the advisors was to be a support system for the officers and the rest of the chapter.

Best Buddies is a non-profit organization, which means they had to complete fundraising in order to put money in their account. Fundraisers that the chapter participated in were finishing up selling smens and smencils from the previous year and selling chocolate bars. The money from the fundraisers went towards the monthly events whether it be a Christmas party, Halloween party, Thanksgiving feast, or just a movie night with popcorn.

"Being in best buddies has made such an impact on my

life and I made memories that will last a lifetime with some amazing people. My buddy and I have created an inseparable bond that I hope to keep for a very long time," said sophomore Kyrstyn Edwards.

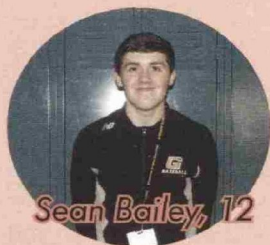
**"My
buddy and
I have created
an inseparable bond
that I hope to keep for
a very long time," said
sophomore Kyrstyn
Edwards.**



Getting ready to exclaim her thanks to her friends freshman Kristee Brown says she is so glad to be apart of Best Buddies. "I love everyone and everything about Best Buddies," said Brown.

While talking away for the five minutes freshman Olivia Halley gets to know sophomore Ryan Baker. "It was a great way to learn about everyone and I enjoyed every minute of it," said Halley.

DECA vs. NHS



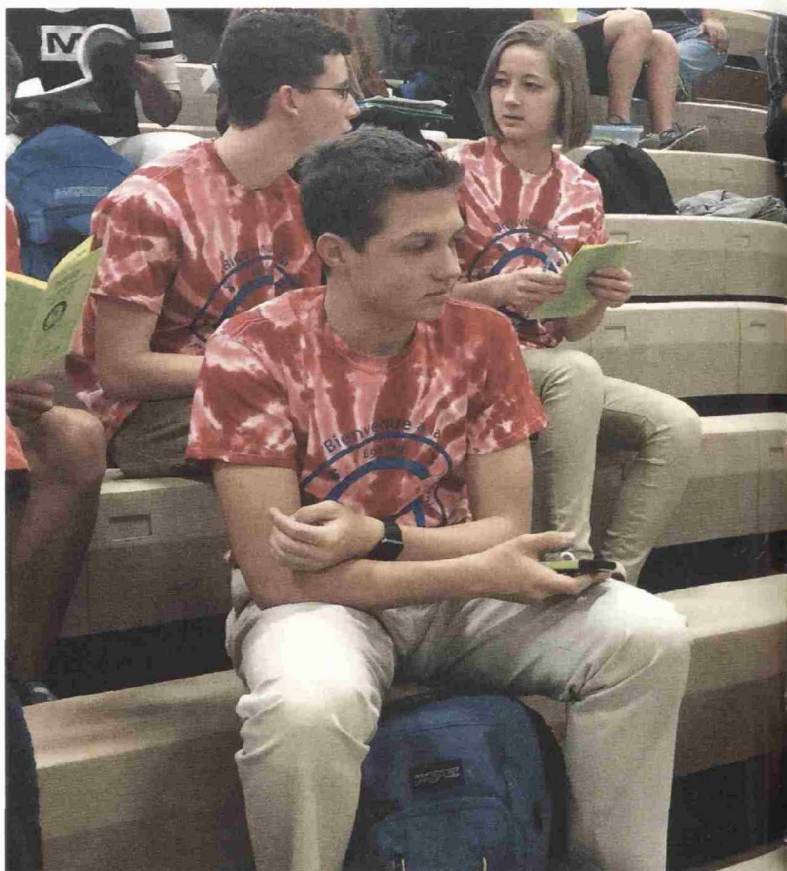
Sean Bailey, 12

"I really enjoyed going to state with all my friends and competing with them. I made a lot of memories this year in DECA, and I also learned a lot about marketing and business. Business is something I may want to go into after high school, and being in DECA has helped me prepare for my future."

"The thing I like most about being in NHS is volunteering, I like doing something productive in the community and getting my service hours for NHS is a way to do that. I've met a lot of new friends in NHS, and I'm proud of myself for being accepted into such a prestigious club."



Maddie Kruse, 11



ACADEMIC SOCIETY

by: Andrew Braddy

National Honor Society (NHS) and DECA are two academic clubs that include: career planning, community service, leadership, character, and citizenship skills along with many other educational skills that students can acquire in these clubs.

Students in NHS are required to have a certain number of service hours by the time they graduate. They can receive hours by helping out at the local library, volunteering at a hospital, or even cleaning up local parks. These students had to earn their way on NHS by having a 3.0 GPA or higher and they have to be in a certain amount of clubs their freshman and sophomore year of high school. The induction ceremony fell on April 10 for old and new members. "I'm glad that I got accepted into NHS because it will help me get into college and it's a great way to help out the community by volunteering," said junior Ben Jacobs.

DECA is a business and marketing club that prepares kids to engage in learning what career path they are interested in. The club was sponsored by business teacher Cherisse Louderman. Louderman has led DECA to state her first two years at Griffith, including this past year. "State was an amazing experience for

me and it's something I'll always remember," said senior Charlie Flores.

Some examples of career paths that DECA can help prepare students for are marketing, finance, hospitality, and management by teaching them what they need to do in each one of those career choices in order to be successful. Every-

"I'm glad that I got accepted into NHS because it will help me get into a college, and it's a great way to help out the community by volunteering," said junior Ben Jacobs.

one that attended regionals qualified for state in their competition category. No one from Griffith qualified for the international competition. Although ten students from Griffith attended state, unfortunately none of them scored high.

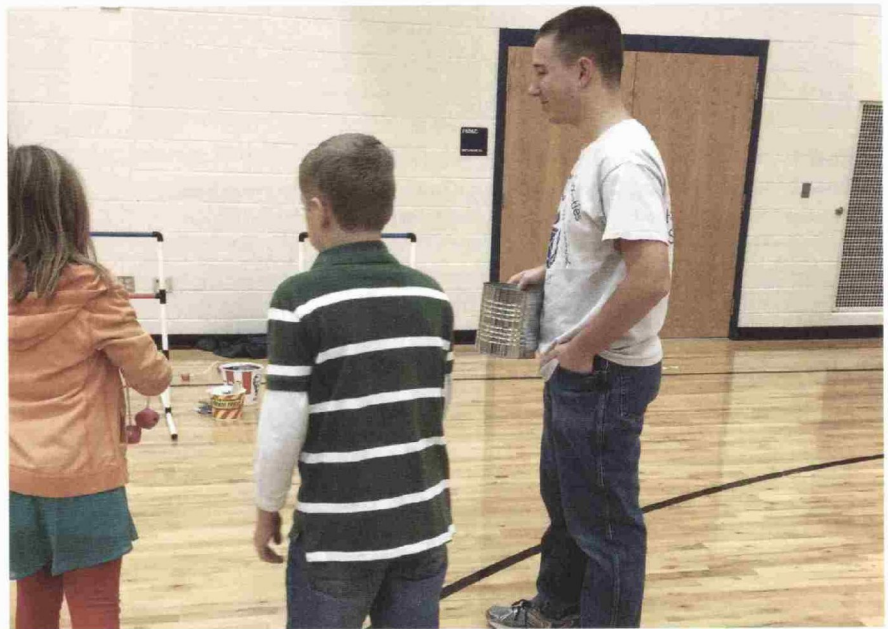
The academic superbowl teams this year competed with three schools at Merrillville High School on April 18th. The schools that Griffith competed against were Hammond High, West Side, and Hanover Central. Griffith had three first place finishes including the Science team, Math team, and Interdisciplinary. English placed 2nd, Fine Arts placed 3rd, and Social Studies placed 4th. "Being on the science team and placing first was my first real memorable moment of high school, it was a great experience being on the team," said freshman Liana Boules.



Sitting with his team watching the other teams compete, sophomore Jonathon Vasilak said, "We were waiting for our turn so I was staying focused because you can't slack off at any competition and you have to perform your best to help your team win."



"Bonding is one of my favorite parts of NHS and going on these trips bring us all closer together," said junior Leslie Leon as she bonds with senior Megan Madrigal and her other NHS friends at the Mandaforum in Centennial Park.



Helping out the elementary school kids at the Beiriger fun fair, senior Luke Reid said, "I enjoyed helping out at the fun fair and contributing to the community anyway I can for DECA."

Encouraging the runners as they passed by at the disability awareness race, junior Emmanuel Agguire said, "I thought that the race was a really positive event and I had a very exciting time encouraging all the runners in the race."

Panther Press Staff



Row 1: Isaiah Ramirez, Bridget Beck, Hannah Ramirez, Michelle Beck, Trevor Sheffield

Row 2: Giselle Valentin, Allison Biancardi, Jordan Langel, Victoria Martinez, Anabel Castellanos, Ali Schoon, Abbey Dobosz

Reflector Staff



Row 1: Lilyana Salazar, Kristina Collard, Erica Ward

Row 2: Andrew Braddy, Christine Morikis, Grace Opinker, Rhiannon Banks, Natalie Halley, Vanessa Bullion, Leanna Early, Stephanie Lester

Row 3: Alexia Smith, Kylie Maloney, Julianne Long, Kylee Taylor, Emilia Shapiro, Hannah Bubala, Emily Keck

Row 4: Damian Villalpando, Taylor Grady, Jake Collins, Haley Dixon, Curtis Carter

DECA



Row 1: Zachary Hilgeman, Hunter Conaghan, Matthew McInerney, Dana Jelenski

Row 2: Adam Kent, Trevor Losiniecki, Storm Fleming, Corynn Kealey, Kayla Schramm

Row 3: Sean Bailey, Keith Hernandez, Chase Janowski, Jacob Diamond, Laura Reid

Booster Club



Row 1: Christine Morikis, Natalie Halley, Dana Jelenski, Renee Mierzwa, Abbey Dobosz

Row 2: Gabriella Hamm, Rachel Deck, Lilyana Salazar, Kynide Williams, Ashley Ramirez

Row 3: Dynahstee Moore, Julianne Long, Nina Cima De Villa, Brooke Rassel, Lauren Atkinson, Kayla Slachta, Angel Lomax

Row 4: Emilia Shapiro, Hannah Bubala, Paige Zoran, Ashley Timm, Olivia Halley, Ivanna Carrera, Haley Gearhart, Hayley Ratliff

Q & A



Hannah Ramirez, 11

Q: What is your favorite club?

A: Newspaper

Q: Why is Newspaper your favorite club?

A: It's my favorite because everyone is so welcoming, nobody is judged,

and anyone can join. I also really like the design work and giving the finishing product to students. The staff makes it feel more like a family rather than a staff.

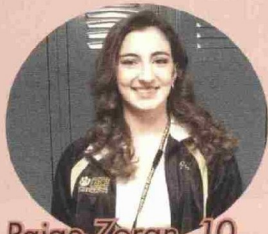
Q: What made you join Newspaper?

A: I took journalism my freshman year because I'm really into that stuff. I debated between newspaper and yearbook and I chose Newspaper because I enjoy writing more. It's probably one of the best decisions I've made in high school.

Q: What is your most memorable moment of Newspaper?

A: Last year, the editors-in-chief chose me to become the editor-in-chief for the next school year and they have made me love newspaper even more.

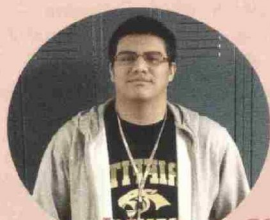
Favorite part



Paige Zoran, 10

"I love just being able to help out other people. It makes me feel like a good person to bring joy to those who can't bring joy to themselves."

"I love to do things for the athletes and cheer on the team because it causes the athletes to feel better about themselves and boost their energy for the upcoming games."



Emmanuel Aguirre, 12

"I really enjoy being spirited for school with this club. My favorite part of it is decorating because it's very exciting and cheerful and always makes the school brighten up."



Kayla Slachta, 9

FCCLA



Row 1: Mary Lesko, Christine Morikis, Shannon Scheidel, Dana Jelenski, Benjamin Jacobs, Ali Schoon

Row 2: Keith Hernandez, Zackary Brownd, Emmanuel Aguirre, Renee Adams, Brookyn Richardson, Lilyana Salazar, Erin Escorza, Antonia Williams, Dara Meece, Kayla Slachta, Ivanna Carrera, Emma Loomis, Angel Lomax

Row 3: Erica Ward, Reta Haddad, Grace Opinker, Haley Greep, Delia Booker, Stephanie Lester, Rhiannon Banks, Julianne Long, Abbey Dobosz, Ashley Ramirez, Jasmine Valdez, Amelia Mitchell, Kynide Williams, Andria Johnson

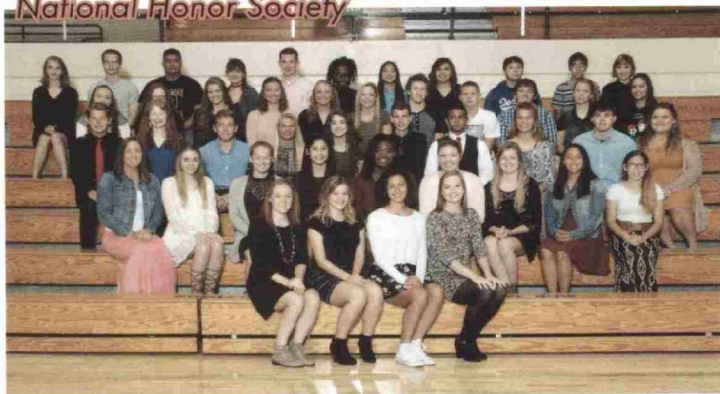
Row 4: Gabrielle Quintana, Tyra Gonzalez, Deleah Walker, Tatum Josephson, Merry Galindo, Kayla Rooke, Taylor Grady, Makiyah Perry-Bell, Ryan Jelenski, Caroline Brown, Emilia Shapiro, Hannah Bubala, Dayjah Robinson, Darea Warner, Amanda Haley, Alexis Gonzalez

Row 5: Jennifer Chur, Melanie Vera, Gabriella Hamm, Monet Mitchell, Sara Mehisen, Catherine Brzycki, Jaclyn Bobos, Haley Gearhart, Leslie Leon-Aguilar, Jacob Diamond, Shawn Falstrom, Jessica Terzarial, Macie Miller, Emily Gonzalez

Row 6: Morgan Willis, Kaylen Long, Rachel Kruhaj, Trinity Austin, Alexia Smith, Brianna Anderson, Dynahstee Moore, Raejean Whitehead, Lia Coria, Luke Reid, Jaz'Myne Alvarez, Pablo Chur, Sarah Thomas, Olivia Halley, Paige Zoran

Row 7: Haylie Keene, Camryn Sinars, Ashley Trice, Yamia Smith, Jessica Lopez, Ariana Muniz, Brittany Brummet, Thomas Perez, Leah Vuckovich, Hollie Witvoet, Mikaela Dragus, Zachary Hilgeman, Matthew McInerney

National Honor Society



Row 1: Michelle Beck, Abbey Dobosz, Isabella Maglish, Dana Jelenski

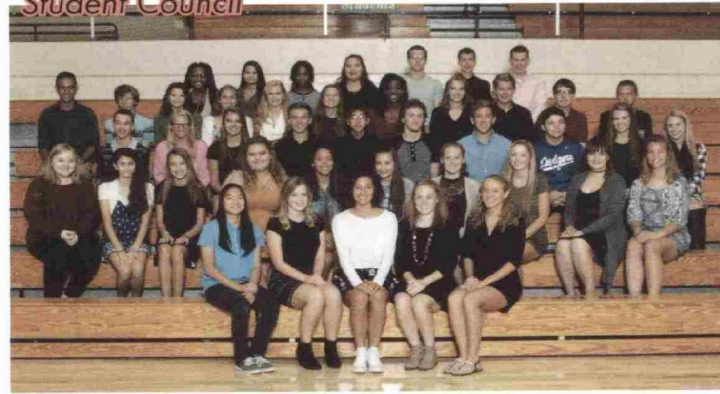
Row 2: Chyna Rex, Lindsay Krajnik, Bridget Beck, Megan Madrigal, Antonia Williams, Leanna Early, Alyssa Skertich, Lilyana Salazar, Madeline Kruse

Row 3: Shawn Falstrom, Dara Meece, Matthew McInerney, Megan Miller, Allison Biancardi, Jacob Diamond, Keith Hernandez, Hannah Ramirez, Charles Flores, Alexis Gonzalez

Row 4: Rachel Deck, Taylor Grady, Ali Schoon, Rachel Kruhaj, Trinity Austin, Erica Ward, Josh Miller, Carson Grin, Hunter Conaghan, Courtney Smith, Julia Carrillo

Row 5: Corynn Kealey, Sam Stassin, Emmanuel Aguirre, Storm Fleming, Benjamin Jacobs, Makiyah Perry-Bell, Grace Szymanski, Nina Mendoza, Dennis Colomes, Thomas Perez, Sylvie Dowd

Student Council



Row 1: Grace Szymanski, Abbey Dobosz, Isabella Maglish, Michelle Beck, Trinity Austin

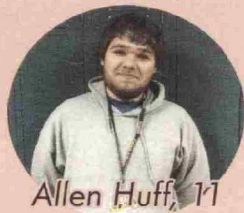
Row 2: Haley Greep, Reta Haddad, Grace Opinker, Alexis Gonzalez, Lilyana Salazar, Julianne Long, Bridget Beck, Erica Ward, Storm Fleming, Hannah Ramirez

Row 3: Christopher Albanese, Macie Miller, Jessica Terzarial, Cameron Bobos, Thomas Perez, Josh Miller, Matthew McInerney, Dennis Colomes, Ali Schoon, Alexis Gardner

Row 4: Curtis Carter, Jason Miller, Emily Kruhaj, Jaclyn Bobos, Hannah Bubala, Emily Keck, Antonia Williams, Corynn Kealey, Shawn Falstrom, Mark Whitlock, Jonathan Vasilak

Row 5: Raejean Whitehead, Nayeli Vazquez, Faith Musa, Victoria Martinez, Sam Stassin, Jacob Diamond, Benjamin Jacobs

Superbowl stars



Allen Huff, 11

"This year I joined superbowl because I wanted to try something new. Doing this makes me feel more involed within the school. I am a part of the fine arts team and the social studies team. However, I enjoy the social studies team more because I've always had an interest in history."

"I joined the math bowl team this school year. I've always liked math a lot so being in math bowl makes me feel like I can practice more skills. Our coach, Christine Chidichimo, is also my math teacher and I like that because we work on material we could possibly learn in class."



Jonathon Vasilak, 10

Bible study

"I am the leader of Bible study. I joined the club because I have a passion for people and want to try to make a difference throughout our school and town. I enjoy going to the weekly meetings and teaching others about the bible, while also sharing personal stories."



Luke Haney, 11

"I go to Bible study often. I am involved in sports and other activites, so I'm not always able to attend church. Going to Bible study lets me feel like I'm connecting with God even though I'm not attending an actual church service. It's good knowing there are kids with the same interests."



Samantha Rettie, 11

Art Club



Row 1: Margaret Rivera, Cassandra Metz, Isabella Maglish, Lilyana Salazar, Dana Jelenski, Alexis Gonzalez

Row 2: Mason Phillips, Megan Wilson, Gabrielle Quinatana, Courtney Smith, Leah Vuckovich

Row 3: Lelia Smith, Jessica Gonzales, Kayla Smith, Kyleah Sturgill, Nayeli Vazquez, Emily Kruhaj

Social Studies Team



Row 1: Allen Huff, Emily Kruhaj, Michelle Beck, Dana Jelenski

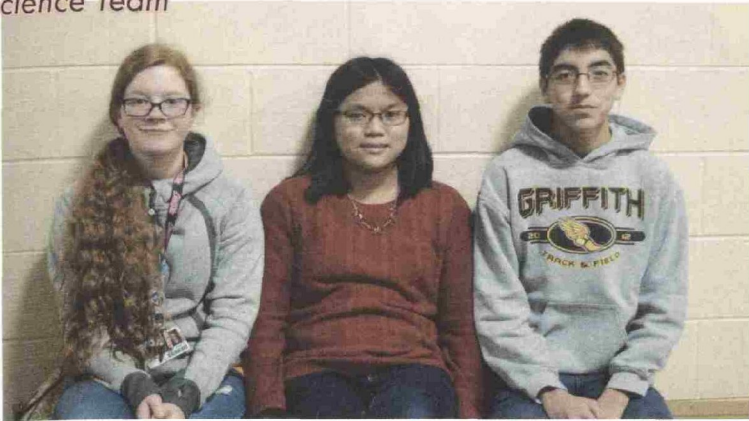
Row 2: Kacie Kruhaj, Rachel Kruhaj, Luke Reid, Jim Pickett

Fine Arts Team



Row 1: Sylvie Dowd, Allen Huff, Sarah Cohen, Hannah Ramirez

Science Team



Row 1: Sarah Thomas, Liana Boules, Thomas Perez

Math Team



Row 1: Bridget Beck, Michelle Beck, Emily Kruhaj, Trinity Austin, Laura Reid
Row 2: Christine Chidichimo, Dennis Colomes, Kacie Kruhaj, Jacob Diamond, Jonathon Vasilak, Luke Reid

English Team



Row 1: Kristina Collard, Abbey Dobosz, Dara Meece, Rachel Kruhaj

The next Picasso



Kyleah Sturgill, 10

“I joined Art Club because my friends are in it and I thought it would be exciting to create art projects with them. So far, we’ve created paper Christmas trees and painted different pictures. My favorite project was a painting of a winter scene that included pine trees and snow falling.”

“This year I decided to join Art Club because it doesn’t interfere with any extra-curricular activities. I’ve always liked making art because it’s something creative I can do. We are currently painting a mural in Miss Rivera’s room against a blank wall. This mural will be a replica of a city.”



Leah Vuckovich, 11

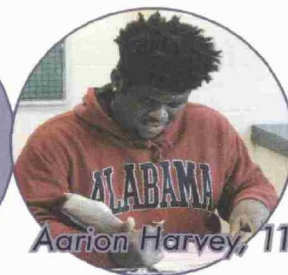


Courtney Smith, 11

“Ms. Rivera is one of my favorite teachers, so that’s why I joined Art Club this school year. The best project we’ve created, in my opinion, is the Christmas tree project. I had to cut out paper and form it into a tree shape, and I decorated it with different decorations like tinsel and ornaments.

ONE OF A KIND

by: Rhiannon Banks



Aarion Harvey, 11

Meeting new people, forming friendships, going through breakups, finding yourself, and making unforgettable memories, are all a part of being a teenager in high school. Every school year brings new challenges and firsts for all students. The freshmen got their first taste of what it felt like to finally be in high school, and they set the tone for how the next four years of their life would go. "I was actually really nervous to start high school because I assumed all of the upperclassmen would be mean, but as I got more comfortable I realized that was not true at all," said freshman Tatiana Negrete.

Sophomores tended to gain more confidence as they began to get the hang of the school. This year they were able to apply to be in the Hammond Area Career Center. Sophomores were able to sign up for a field trip second semester to take a trip to the career center to check it out and see if it was right for them. "I'm very excited to be able to attend the career center next year. I always wondered what exactly the career center was so it's very cool that I am able to be a part of something like that. I hope to be able to further my education about hair and nail care, and gain skills as a makeup artist," said sophomore Jenna Brown.

Juniors were finally able to aide for any teacher they would like if they have a 3.5 GPA or above. After waiting since middle school to be able to have a free period to help their favorite teacher out, the opportunity finally arose for those students who meet the requirments. "My favorite teacher since middle school is Mrs. Reed and this year I decided to aide for her. Being able to help her out is so great because she is such a funny teacher," said junior Deleah Walker.

Seniors had their last set of "firsts" in high school and prepared themselves to begin their lives as adults. College

applications and scholarship applications were a top priority for a majority of seniors this year. "Being a senior is so stressful and I never knew it would be so hard. Applying for colleges and scholarships is a lot to handle and not something I enjoy doing, but recieving acceptance letters is beyond amazing. Being accepted into a college you've always dreamed of going to is one of the greatest feelings in the world," said senior Brooklyn Richardson.

Every year comes with new changes that the students must adapt to. This year's change was the start and ending times of school. Rumors of the new start time surfaced last school year, but nothing was final until the start of the school year. "After hearing

the news of school starting thirty minutes earlier this year, I told my friends that I would not be going to school because of the new time, but I was obviously lying. I've gotten used to the new start time and couldn't imagine going back because we would get out later," said sophomore Jalyn Perry-Bell.

Dances, sport games, plays, and after school clubs are all things the students of GHS are able to take part in. Students all come together to show their school pride and do their best to attend all school related activities. "As a senior, I try to do my best to go to all of the games, since they are my last high school events. Being able to 'lead' the student section is something I really enjoy," said senior Zac Hilgeman.

Although no two people at GHS are alike, students from every grade can come together for one common interest, to show their Panther pride all throughout the school. Whether students get along with each other or not, the school is a place where the students show imense support for everything the school offers.

"Although I was scared of the upperclassmen at first, I realized they were just like me, just a little older. I like going to a school where everyone gets along," said freshman Tatiana Negrete.

Laughing during a Friday night football game, freshmen Catherine Bryzcki and Kayla Rooke show their pride by dressing up for the student section theme. "Being able to dress up for football games and sitting in the student section is one of my favorite parts of being in high school," said Rooke.

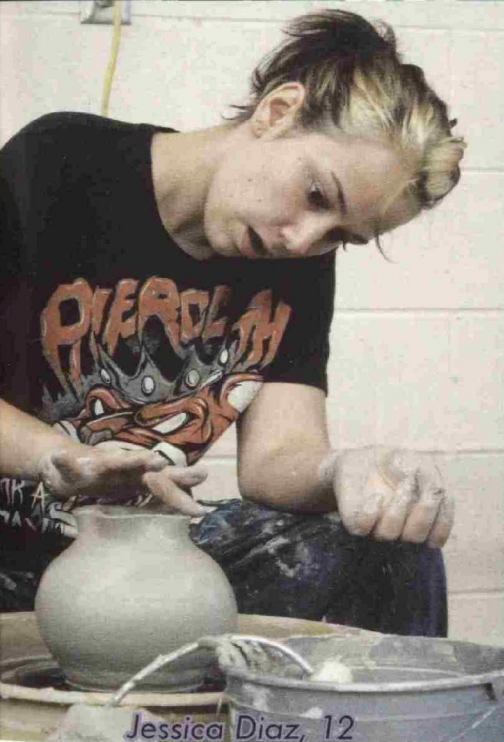


While on a field trip for NHS, junior Ben Jacobs enjoys the donuts provided by Strack & Van Til. "I'm glad I was able to be a part of such a prestigious club," said Jacobs.

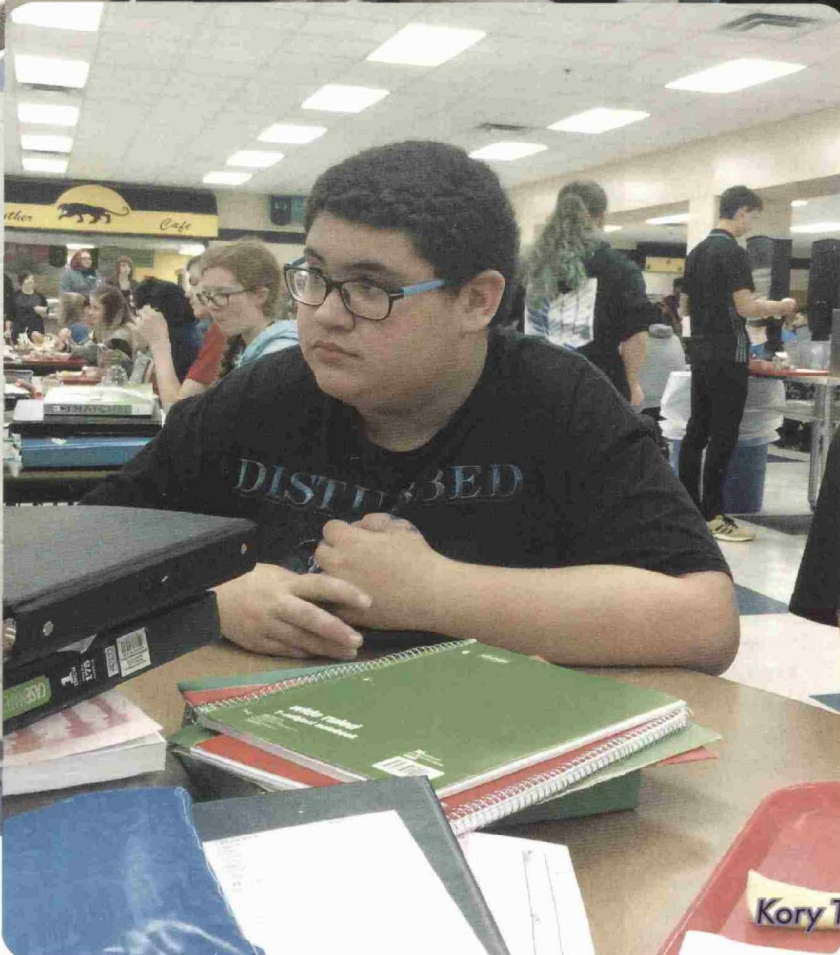
Hunter Conaghan, 12,
Matt McNerey, 12 &
Denny Colomes, 12



Sabrina Dodson, 12,
Ale Albanese, 12 &
Lily Jeffers, 12



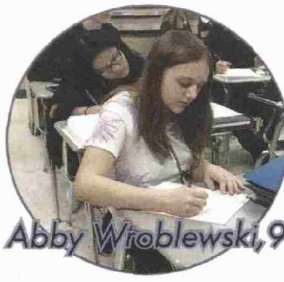
Jessica Diaz, 12



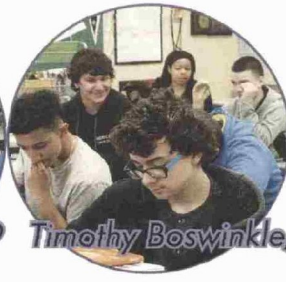
Kory Taufi, 9

FRESHMEN

by: Emily Keck



Abby Wroblewski, 9

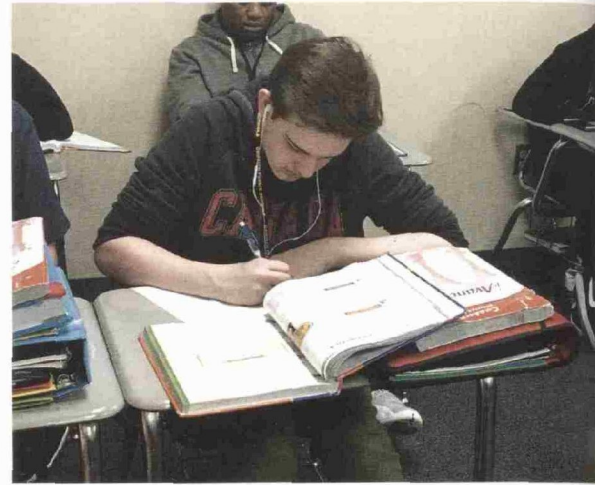


Timothy Boswinkle, 9

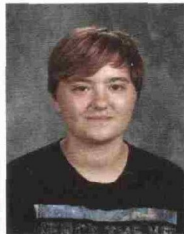


In Lauren Nelson's Algebra (I) class, freshmen Ivanna Carrera, KaiSeanna Andrews, and Aliah Lynn work on an ISTEP practice packet. "Once a week we work on the packet to prepare for next year's ISTEP," said Carrera.

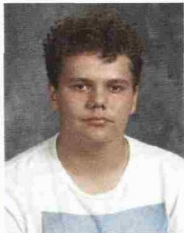
In Veronica Garcia's Spanish (I) class, freshman Parker Jennings listens to music while working on an assignment. "I like to listen to music while I work because it helps me focus," said Jennings.



Jasmine Abram
Ekaterina Adkins
Kaylee Akers
Alexandra Almaraz
Taleah Alvarez
Victor Anderson



KaiSeanna Andrews
Kayla Atkinson
Hunter Baker
Thaddeus Balentine
Jaclyn Bobos
Timothy Boswinkle



Liana Boulles
Caroline Brown
Kristee Brown
Kyle Brown
Brittany Brummet
Catherine Brzycki



Hannah Bubala
Tre Bubala
Marissa Burosh
Juan Calvillo
Arely Cano
Bruce Carman

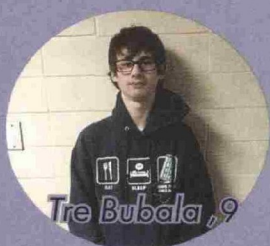


Favorite memory



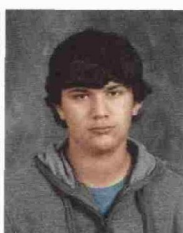
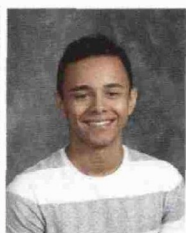
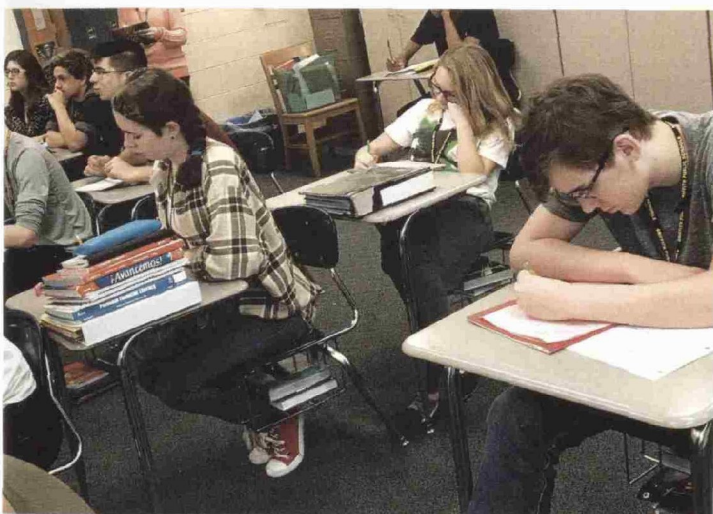
"My favorite memory from this year is being able to go to Homecoming with all of my friends. I also really enjoyed soccer season because I made friendships with upperclassmen. The away games were a memorable part because of the bus rides home."

"I have a few favorite memories from this year. I really enjoy science class and I look forward to taking higher, advanced classes in the future. Another memory is creating Journey, a 2-D video game in my computer science class."



During his third hour, freshman Jeremy Johnson runs to his locker to grab his math book because he had finished his English assignment. "I had to go to my locker to get my math book so I could get ahead on that night's homework," said Johnson.

In Ella Swinney's English 9, freshmen Jillian Carroll, Hanna Kountz, and Calib Martinez work on a poetry packet. "We had to do a RACE question for each poem and figure out what the true meaning behind each one was," said Kountz.

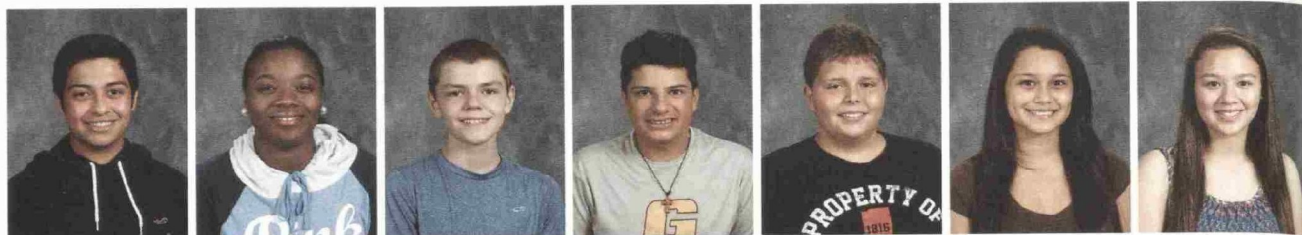


Ivanna Carrera
Jillian Carroll
Alyssa Carter
Curtis Carter
Derrick Cash
Ryan Castillo

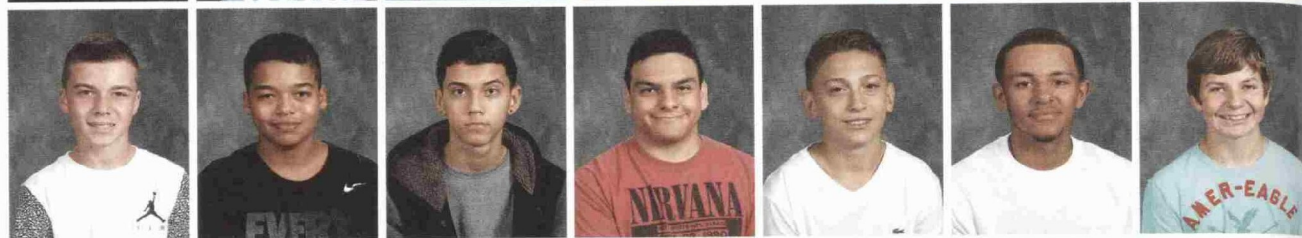


Kenyon Cheairs
Jovhana Chenoweth

Paulo Chur
Aaliyah Clayborn
Curtis Cobb
Gabriel Colomes
Vincent Conti
Lia Coria
Myra Cortes



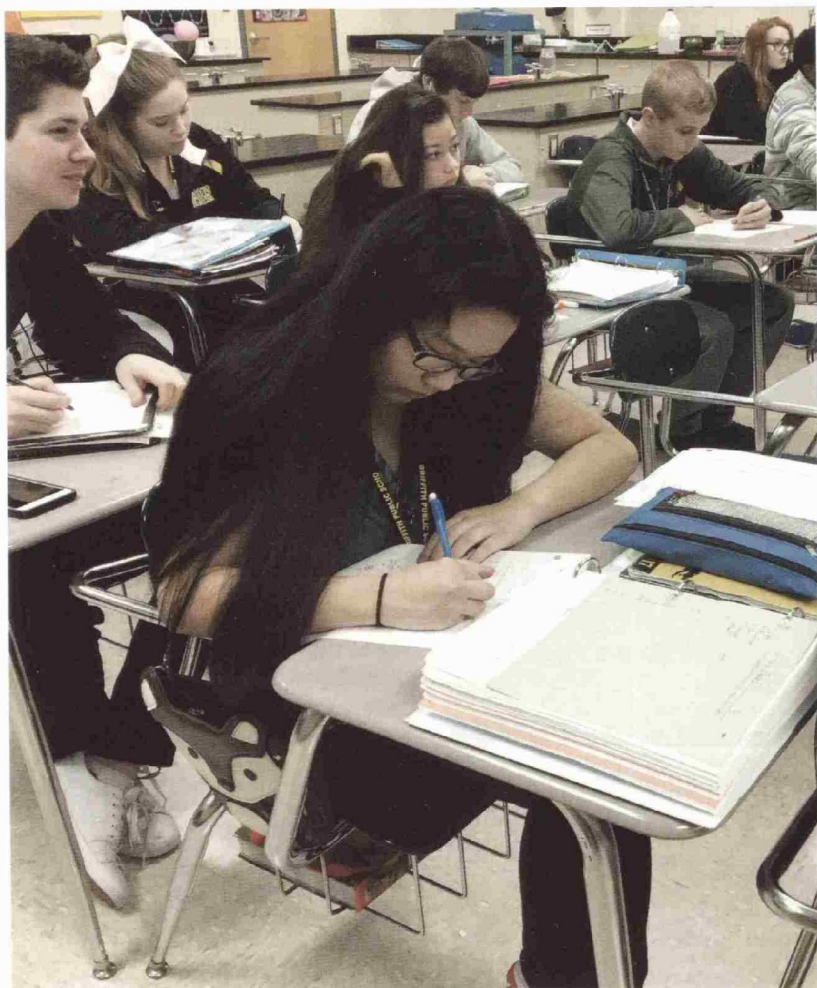
William Cozmanoff
Yeion Cribbs
Alonzo Cruz
Gabriel Cruz
Noah Czalbowski
Jason Daniels
Ryan Davenport



Bryson Davis
Nicholas DeYoung
Charles Dodson
Alyssa Dragomer
Ryan Dudlicek
Jenna Dye
Noah Eldridge



Biology I brings many notes for freshman Kassidy Szymanski. "Ms. Wencloff was having us watch a video on DNA and take notes as the video progresses," said Szymanski.



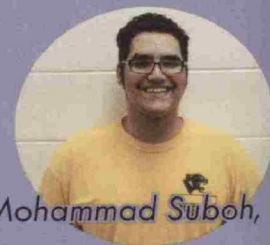
Favorite lunch



Braylin Welk, 9

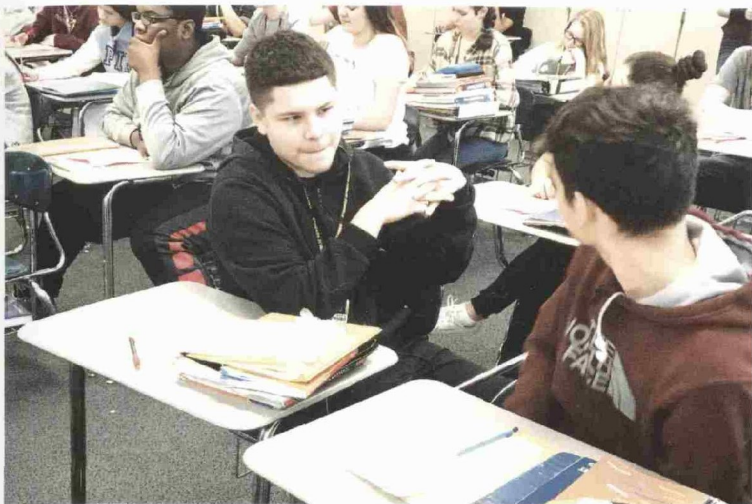
"Popcorn chicken with mashed potatoes and gravy is my absolute favorite thing to eat for lunch. With my popcorn chicken, I like to have mandarin oranges or a banana. As for the drink, my favorite is a Mountain Dew that I bring from home."

"My favorite lunch is either the cheese circle pizza, or popcorn chicken with mashed potatoes. As the side with my lunch, I like to eat an apple. I usually eat sugar cookies with every lunch as my dessert."

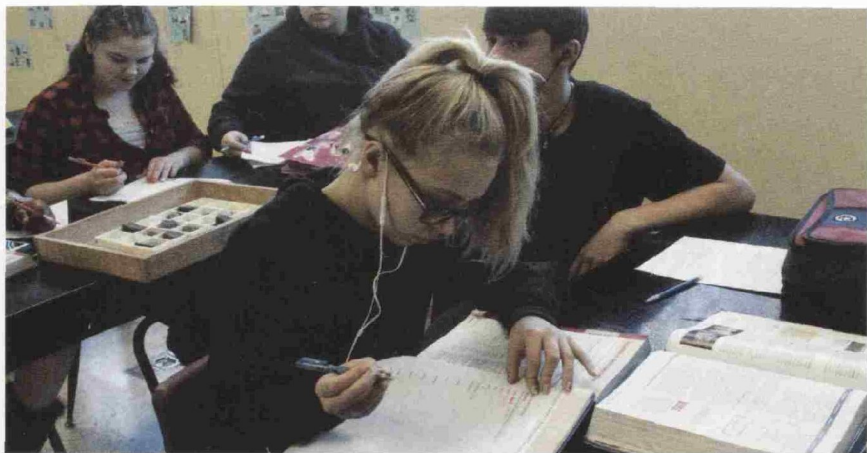


Mohammad Suboh, 9

Freshmen Jalen Torres and Antonio Martinez are discussing their poetry packets in their English 9 class. "We are learning how to fill out a SOAPSTONE chart for poems," said Torres.



During Nick Zivanovic's Introduction to Computer Science class, freshmen Xavier Sopher and Ricky Nunez program their Sphero. "We used our phones to program the Sphero, and it came easy to me," said Sopher.



In Earth and Space Science class, freshman Madison Pearson takes notes on types of rocks. "Ms. North was teaching us about rocks, such as igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary," said Pearson.



Donte Everton
Kyle Fields
Joshua Forrest
Jeremiah Freeman
Andrew Garcia
Rajan Gibson

Anna Gonzales
Kina Grayson
Olivia Halley
Logan Harder
Kelis Herron
Jessica High

Shawn Hocking
Andrea Hudiczius
Niala Hughes
Amar Issa
Helal Issa
Deondre Jarvis

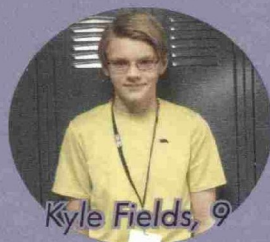
Moving up



Melanie Meyer, 9

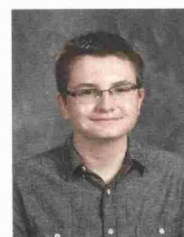
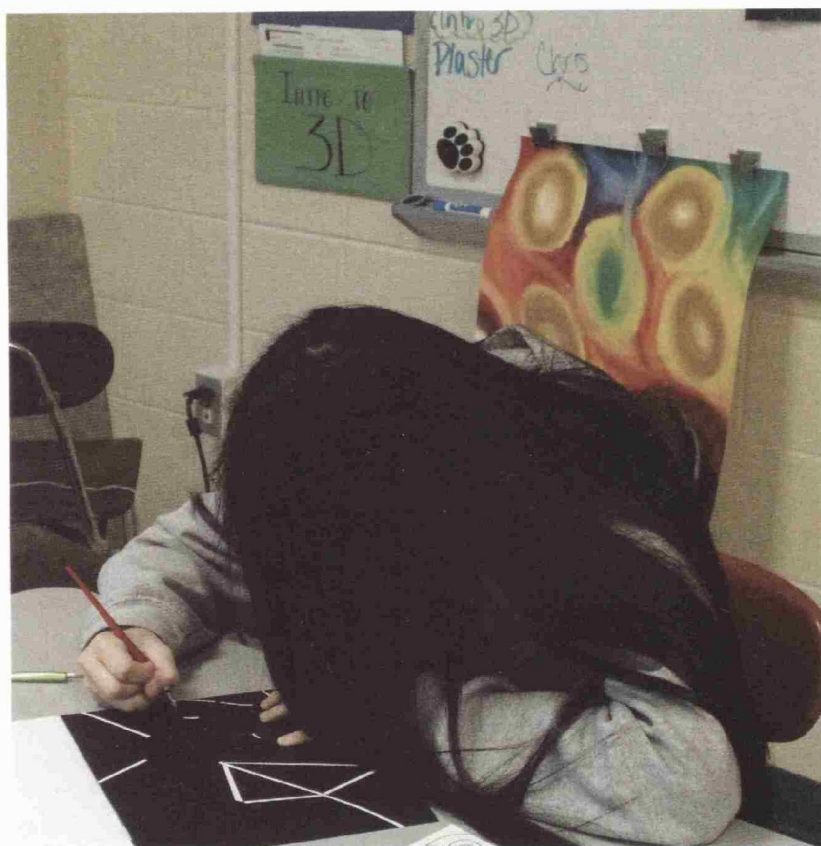
"High school is tougher than middle school because the teachers push you to do your best and it's more stressful. There is a variety of classes you can take and plenty of clubs to join. Having all these different classes and clubs gives me a lot of opportunities."

"High school is a little bit harder than middle school. There is a lot more work in high school that the teachers expect you to do. All the lessons are a lot more in depth and the halls are crowded. I came from Saint Mary's and we didn't change classes that were long distances, so getting used to that is hard."



Kyle Fields, 9

During 2D Art Class, freshman Nayeli Vazquez works on her zentangle project. "My brother influenced me to start having an interest in art when I was in 6th grade. He always saw potential in me to reach my artistic goals," Vazquez said.



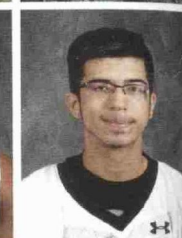
Ryan Jelenski
Jakob Jenkins



Parker Jennings
Andria Johnson



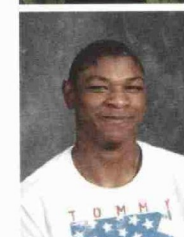
Darion Johnson
Jeremy Johnson



Logan Jones
Emily Keck



Haylie Keene
Carmen Kellum



Angelo Kimbrough
Ryan Kimmel



Hanna Kountz
Emily Kruhaj



Alexander Lair
Ashley Laskarin





In Sara Novak's Culinary 2 class, the class takes notes and listens to instructions on the importance of cooking. "I decided to take Culinary 2 because I wanted to enhance my learning on cooking, so I could become a better cook," freshman Alyssa Mull said.



Oshawn Lee
Carleigh Linders
Angel Lomax
Michael Lopez
Xavier Lopez
Aliah Lynn

Cody Marsh
Antonio Martinez
Calib Martinez
Sean Martinez
Yanette Martinez
Tyler Maxwell

Evan Maywald
Karrington McCray
Quinten McToy
Sara Mehisen
April Mendoza
Andrea Meraz

Melanie Meyer
Jason Miller
Jesse Miller
Maria Ministro
Jacob Mis
Roman Mitchell

Janelly Moyo
Alyssa Mull

Gabriel Mullenix
Charles Murphy
Tatianna Negrete
Joseph Novosel
Ricardo Nunez
Christian O'Brien



Lyanna Obregon
Nolan Olsen
Nicholas Orzechowicz
Jesus Pantoja
Brianna Paulsen
Madison Pearson



Dexter Pendleton
Robert Pepoff
Abbigail Perkovich
Lavell Powell
Noah Ramirez
Melanie Ramirez-Barcenas



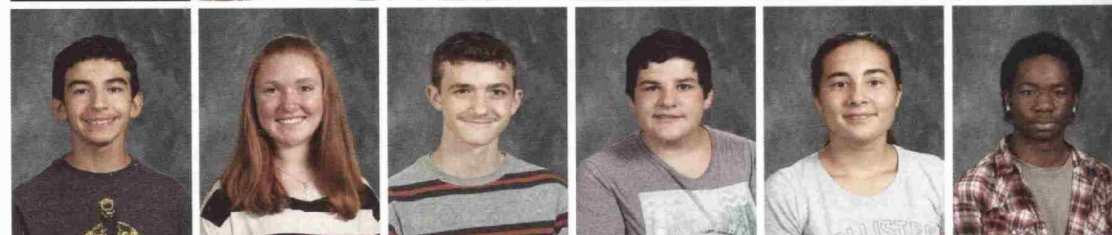
Alexander Ratliff
Hayley Ratliff
Dominique Reed
Malcolm Reid
Nijah Reid
Donald Reitz



Alexander Retic
Naida Ridge
Tyree Riley
Anissa Rivera
Alaina Rodriguez
Michael Rodriguez



Nicholas Rodriguez
Kayla Rooke
Thomas Rotermond
Nolan Ruiz
Toni Ryan
Eric Sanders



Mialah Sanders
Jorge Saucedo
Jordyn Schierberl
Mikayah Scott
Zayne Sederburg
Julian Sepulveda





Alyssa Shamblee
Emilia Shapiro
Rashod Shaw
Kayla Slachta
Sierra Slaton
Tyler Smith

Tysa' Smith
Xavier Sopher
Jeremy Speelman
Tannor Steffan
Aryn Stevens
Briah Strezo



Freshmen Amar Issa, Emily Kruhaj, and A.J. Lair gather their supplies at their lockers during the passing period before their 3rd class of the school day. "I like to talk with my friends about basic things that are going on, like the Patriots winning the Super Bowl," said Issa.

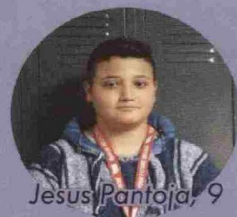
What is the highlight of a day at GHS?



Catherine Bryzcki, 9

"The best part of my day is eating my lunch that I bring from home. Usually I pack a sandwich, water, and snacks like brownies, fruit, or chips. I also get to catch up with my friends, which is always a good time."

"My favorite part of school is talking to my friends. We talk about sports, weekend plans, and our classes during lunch. Also, we talk about basketball games, the scores, and how crazy it was."



Jesus Pantoja, 9



At the annual Spaghetti Dinner, freshmen Kayla Atkinson and Caroline Brown collected funds for the Pantherettes. They offered baked goods in exchange for a donation to the team. "It was great to sell for our team. The food looked really good,"

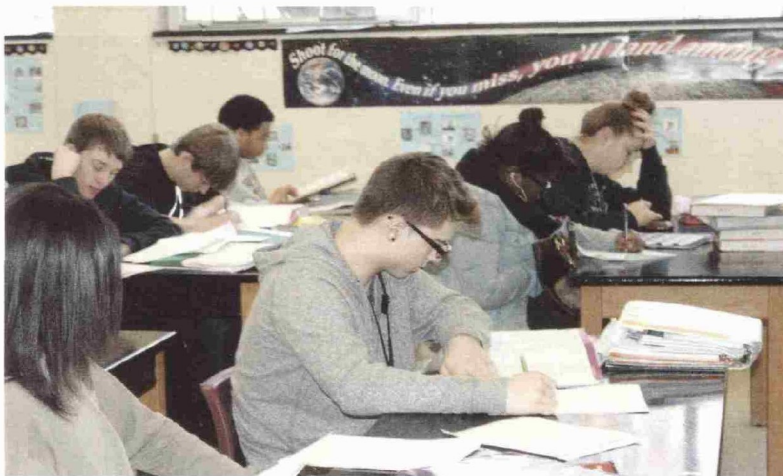
Mohammad Suboh
Kassidy Szymanski
Kory Taufi
Kylee Taylor



Sarah Thomas
Ashley Timm
Jalen Torres
Kayla Ulman

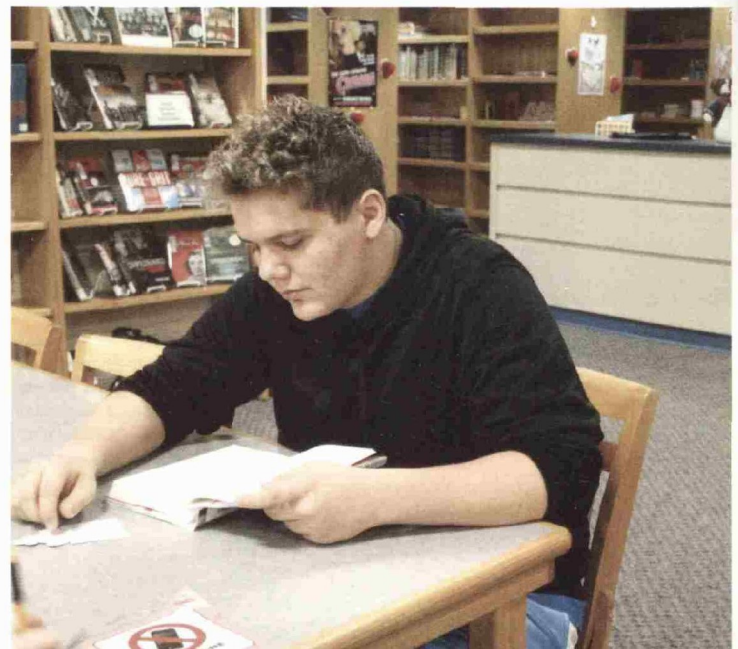


Freshman Ashley Laskarin works on preparing Golden Cream soup in Sara Novak's Culinary II class. "My favorite meal I made was the soup. We used a lot of ingredients to make it, which made it a blast," said Laskarin.



Working hard in Lauren North's Earth Space Science class, freshman Logan Harder works on one of his class assignments. "I like Ms. North's class because the labs we do help me understand the material better," said Harder.

Wishing that he was back in gym, freshman Hunter Baker reads a book because he can not participate in gym activities due to a soccer injury. "I want to be in gym, but I can't due to the surgery I had," said Baker.

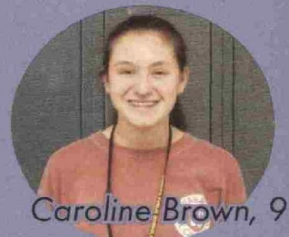


Biggest fear



Cole Reitz, 9

"Running into my brother was a huge fear when the freshman year began. School also worried me, because I wanted to maintain good grades throughout the whole wrestling season. Being in honor classes and keeping high grades worried me"

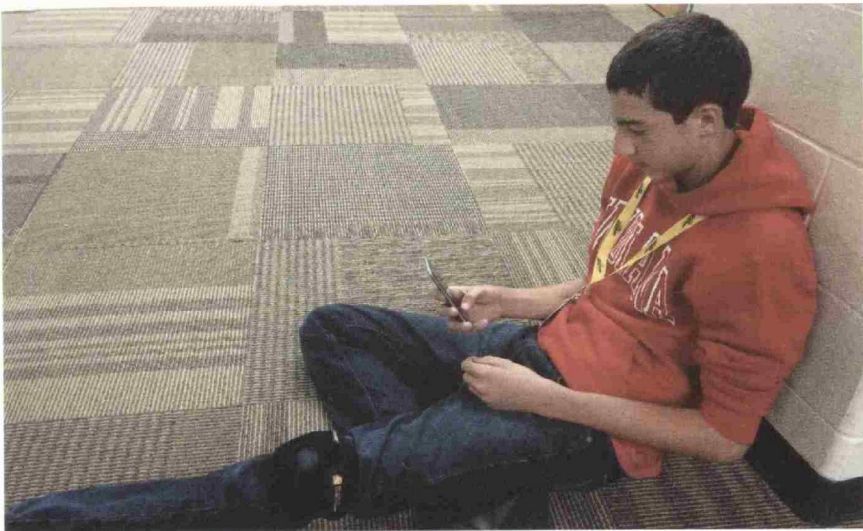


Caroline Brown, 9

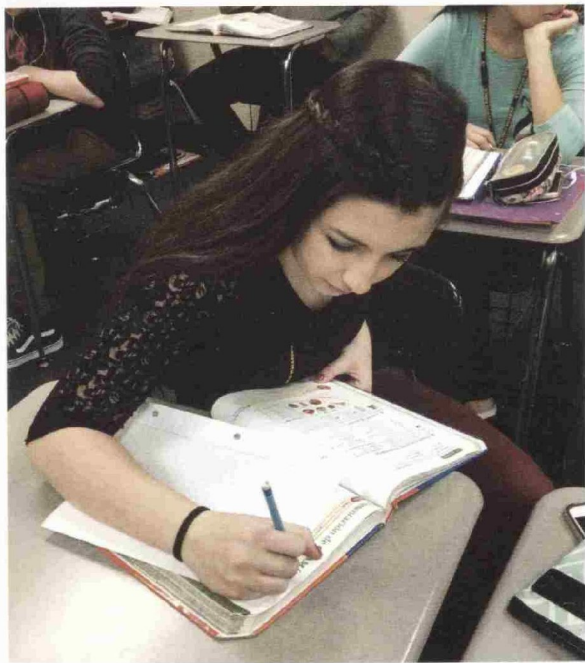
"My biggest fear as a freshman was meeting my new teachers and focusing on my grades. I was worried that the classes were going to be really tough and challenging. I also feared stressing out over learning the dances for Pantherettes."



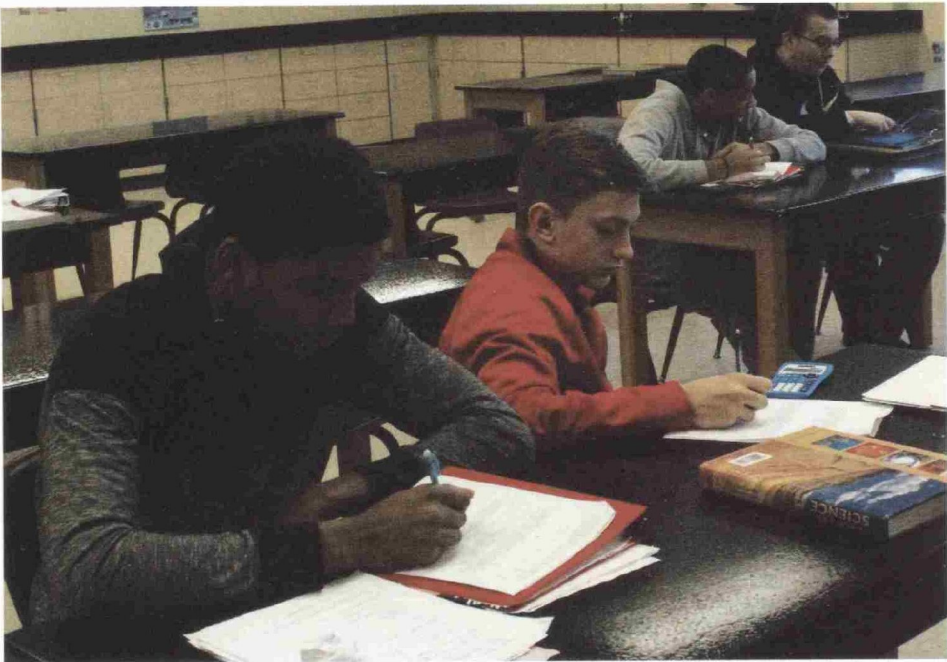
Demaya Unger
 Logan Vallandigham
 Nayeli Vazquez
 Seth Vestal
 Damian Villalpando
 Kavresha Walls
 Clifford Waxton
 Noah Waxton
 Diaz Weatherington
 Braylin Welk
 Rickayla Williams
 Caiya Wright
 Abby Wroblewski
 Dianna Yancy



With his phone in his hand freshmen A.J. Lair, sits outside Mr. Zivanovic's class. "I was talking too much in my intro to computer science class with my friend Jeremiah," said Lair.



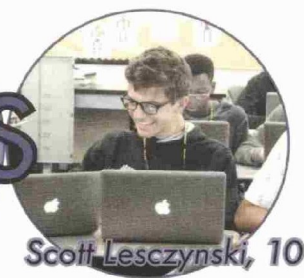
In order to do her homework assignment in Spanish I, freshmen Brianna Paulsen begins by writing her name on her paper. "Spanish I can be really difficult at times, but I plan on continuing Spanish throughout my four years of high school," said Paulsen.



"My favorite memory from Mrs. North's class was the volcano project. She is a very helpful teacher, so I understand every topic we learn before we test on it," said freshmen Noah Czalowski while sitting next to freshmen Quinten McToy.

SOPHOMORES

by: Rhiannon Banks



Scott Lesczynski, 10

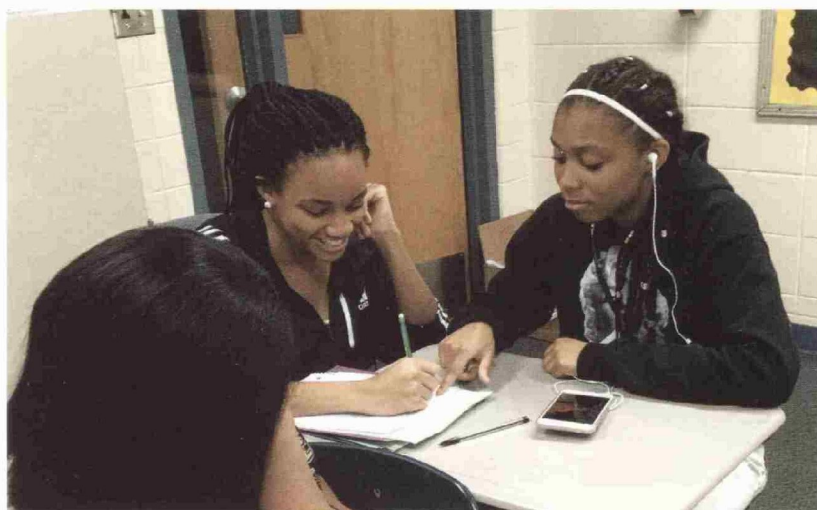
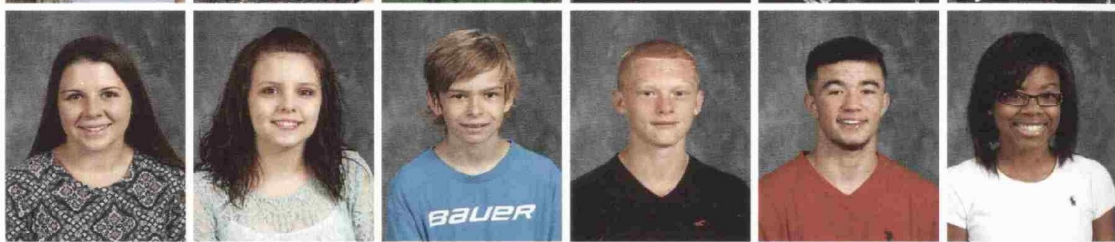
Marixa Acevedo
Christina Ahlquist
Christopher Albanese
Jaz' Myne Alvarez
Brianna Anderson
Diamond Arthur



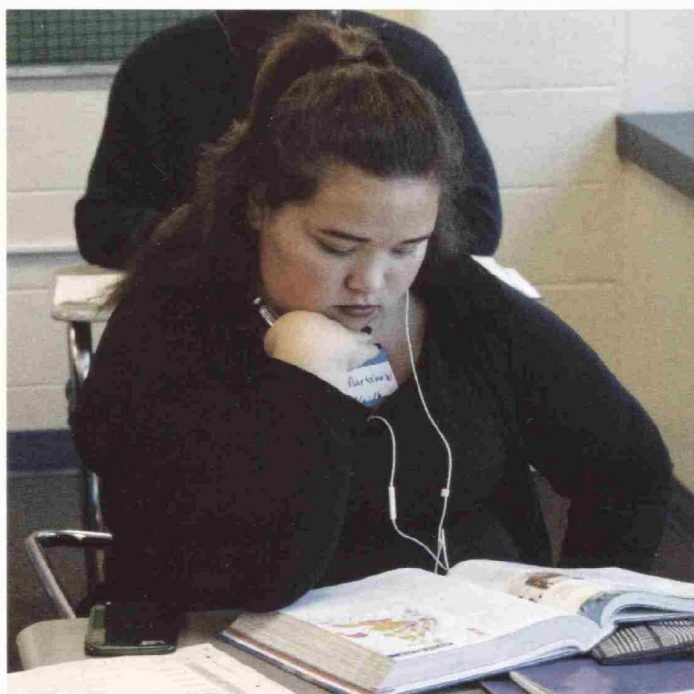
Lauren Atkinson
Marwa Awwad
Ryan Bakker
Jarriz Baldauf
Krystian Ball
Tierra Bankhead



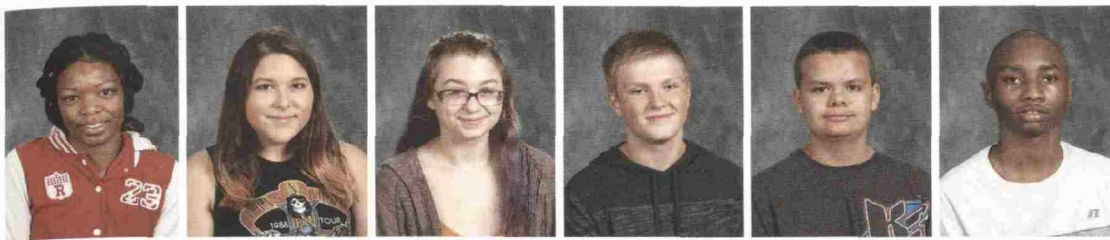
Rhiannon Banks
Kgonna Batts
Anthony Berkley
Taylor Bliss
Nikolais Bohn
Jaylah Bolden



In Carl Dunlap's English class, sophomores Raejean Whitehead and Aaliyah Lee work together in a group. "Working in groups helps me get my work done faster," said Whitehead.



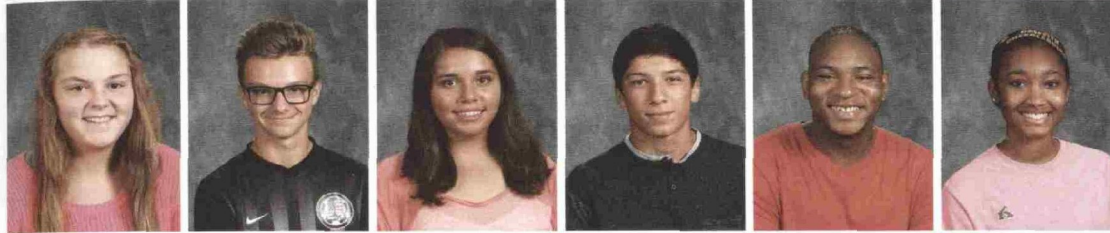
Diligently working, sophomore Victoria Martinez listens to music while she takes notes in class. "Being able to listen to music makes doing work much more enjoyable," said Martinez.



Victoria Bolden
Paige Borowski
Makayla Boswinkle
Andrew Braddy
Zachary Breeden
DaJon Brocks



Devin Brown
Jenna Brown
Londyn Buck
Vanessa Bullion
Delorean Butler
Aaryana Cano



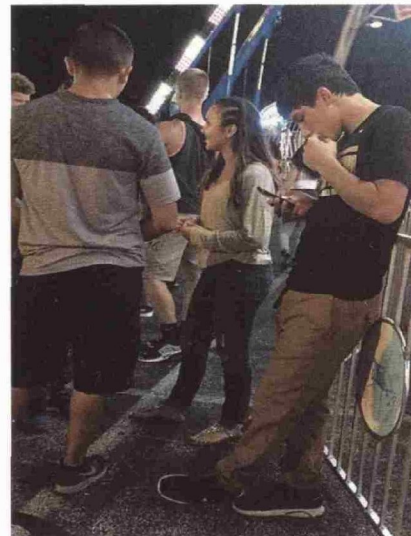
Brittany Carroll
William Carroll
Anabel Castellanos
Cole Cervantes
Darius Cheairs
Kaelynn Church



Nina Cima de Villa

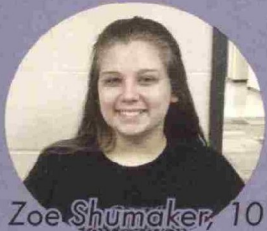


While working a booth for her church at the Central Park Community Day, sophomore Jalyn Jones hands out a necklace to someone interested in joining the church. "Being able to donate my time to something I enjoy was great," said Jones.



Standing outside the Fun Slides ride, sophomore Cole Cervantes checks his phone for messages. "I always look forward to the end of the summer fair at St. Mary's because it's a great way to hangout with my friends before school and the last event of summer," said Cervantes.

Who r u?



Zoe Shumaker, 10

"I really enjoy being around my friends and family. I'm a huge family person. I enjoy going on vacation with my family and walking around town with my friends. I have a job, so when I'm not working I try to make time to go to the school activities and sporting events."

"I'm a pretty happy-go-lucky person. I enjoy hanging out with my friends outside of school and doing wild things. School work is also very important to me so before I make plans with friends I always make sure to have all my homework finished so I keep my grades up."

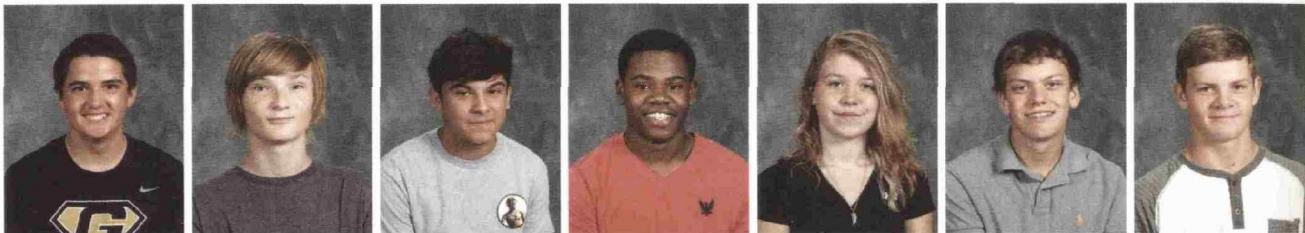


David O'Brien, 10

Attempting to get the final out in kickball, sophomore Ben Ladendorf and juniors Erik Martinez and Shadi Haddad try to catch the ball, "I love when we play kickball, especially when our team is stacked," said Ladendorf.



Jacob Collins
Joseph Collins
Matthew Curiel
David Curtis
Jayden Damron
Richard Damron
Andrew Davenport



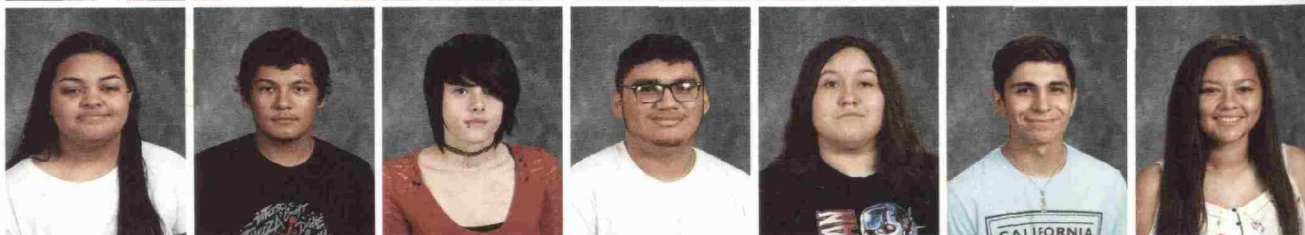
Steven Davies
Damian Davila
Makenzie Degand-
McKinney
Dawn Denisiuk
Zoe Dieguez
Matthew Dildine
Haley Dixon



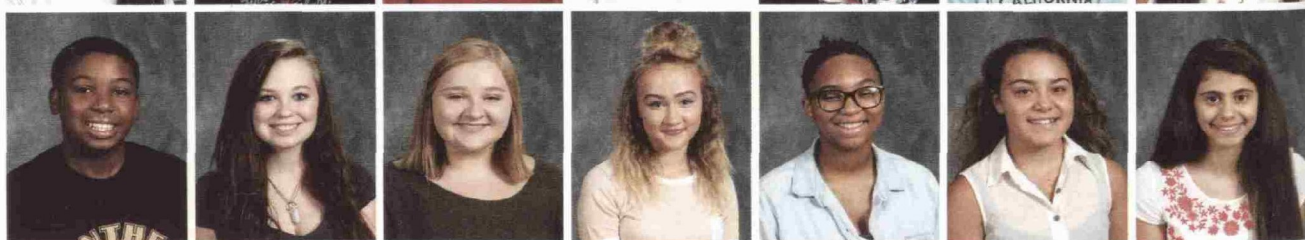
Philip Drozd
Serena Duran
Kirsten Edwards
Ethan Farrell
Elijah Faulkner
Alante' Fortier
Andrew Garcia



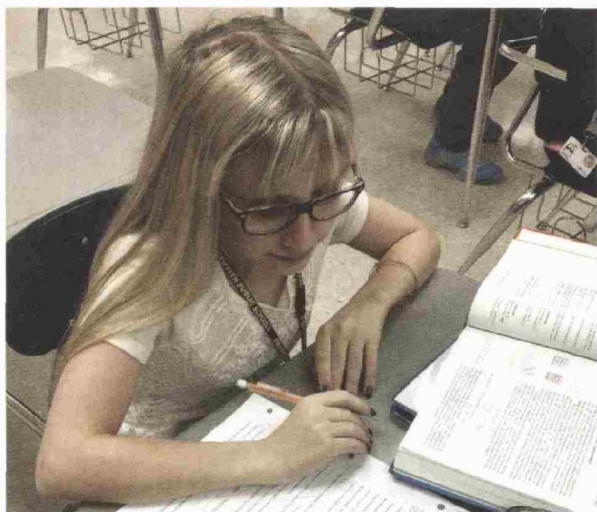
Cassandra Garcia
Nicholas Garner
Lynnette Gilbert
Juan Gomez
Jessica Gonzales
Aaron Gonzalez
Tyra Gonzalez



Craig Gordon
Allexys Green
Haley Greep
Tara Grochowski
Trinity Guider
Jasmine Gutierrez
Reta Haddad



In health class, sophomore Emma Loomis tries to finish all of her work so she does not get homework. "I usually do my work by myself when we have free time so I don't get homework," said Loomis.



Moving on to next hour, sophomore Kamryn Pulliam is at her locker getting supplies in the upstairs hall, "I like when I am at my locker during passing periods because I get talk to my friends," said Pulliam.

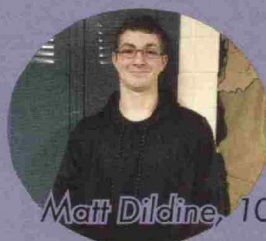


As a three point shot gets unleashed by sophomore Mateo Lopez, he makes a clutch play. "Team sports is my favorite class, in my opinion, not many people can guard me when I shoot," said Lopez.



Enjoying her school lunch, sophomores Jaedynn Williamson and Jenna Borwn sit by each other. "It is nice to take a break from all of my classes and sit with my good friends," said Williamson.

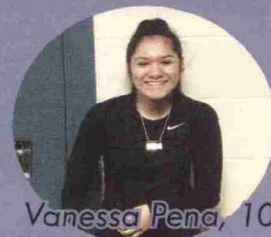
Early mornings



Matt Dildine, 10

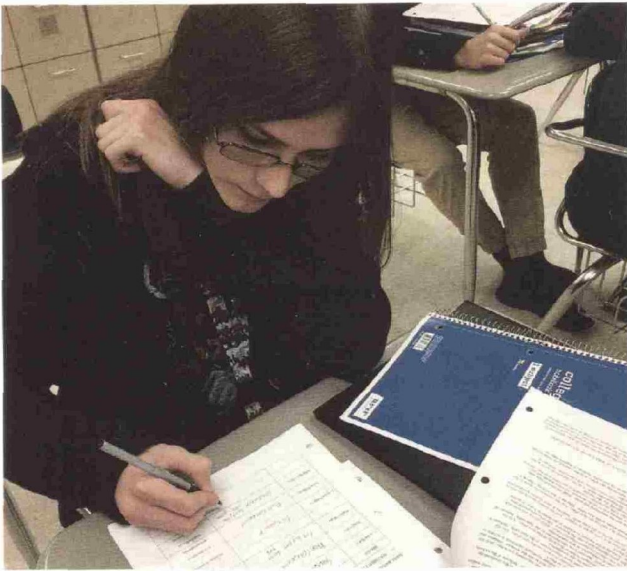
"I would rather start at 8 like we did last year compared to 7:30. I feel like 7:30 is too early for me because I like to sleep as much as I can. I do like the fact that we get out earlier than last year, so I can get more time when school is over to do other things that I enjoy."

"Starting at 7:30 this year makes my day and morning a lot harder then it did last year. I love sleep and the fact that I lose 30 minutes of sleep makes me rush a lot in the morning, and it also makes it really difficult to focus in school because I'm really tired."



Vanessa Pena, 10

Concentrating on his assignment in Fred Farnell's chemistry class, sophomore Ethan Farrell works on finishing his assignment. "I enjoy learning new things in Chemistry," said Farrell.

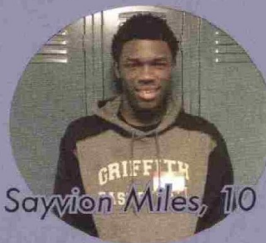


Amanda Haley
Josiah Harden
Tianna Harris



Allia Hasan
Emily Henley
Anastasia Hernandez

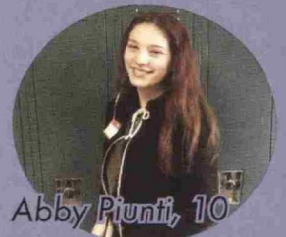
Funny moments



Sayvion Miles, 10

"One day after class during the passing period I purposely fell in front of other people just to act funny. I thought it was funny seeing others reactions to falling because they didn't know it was on purpose. After I was done falling in front of people I started rolling along the sophomore hallway because my friends dared me and said I wouldn't do it."

"I wanted to do the 'make a scene challenge' because it was a new challenge and I've seen a lot of people do it on social media. So I did it with my friends Mariah Huesken and Allia Hasan. We did it in most of the hallways. I yelled 'make a scene' and then dropped to the floor like I fell, and everyone watched me fall and laughed."



Abby Pionti, 10



At Hoffman Lake, sophomores Nina Cima de Villa and Taylor Hill talk while on the swings. "I enjoyed spending the first weekend of summer at the lake with my closest friends," said Hill.

While at lunch, sophomore Mackenzie Olsen expresses her emotions to sophomore Lena Mansour. "I normally tell Lena about my day because she listens to my problems," said Olsen.





Taylor Hill
Edward Hintz
Alexis Hogan
Christian Holley
Brianna Hoskins
Mariah Huesken

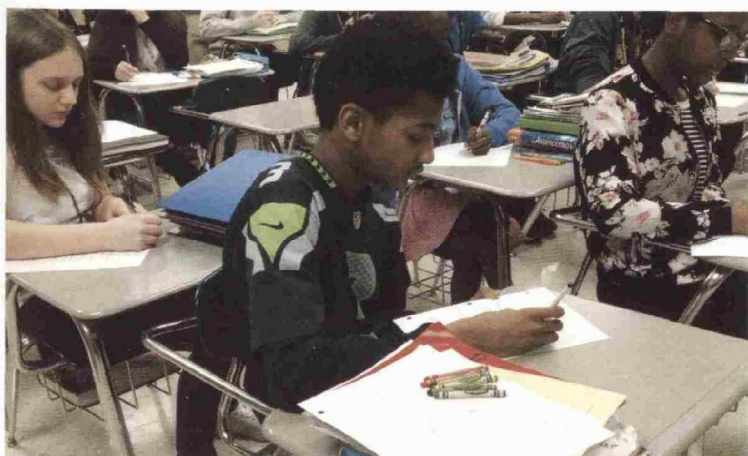
Taccara Hughes
Mason Isenblatter
Samih Issa
Kyle Iwinski
Alison Johnson
Ernest Johnson

Jayla Johnson
Jordyn Johnson
Jalyn Jones
Robert Jones
Emily Judge
Michael Kantor

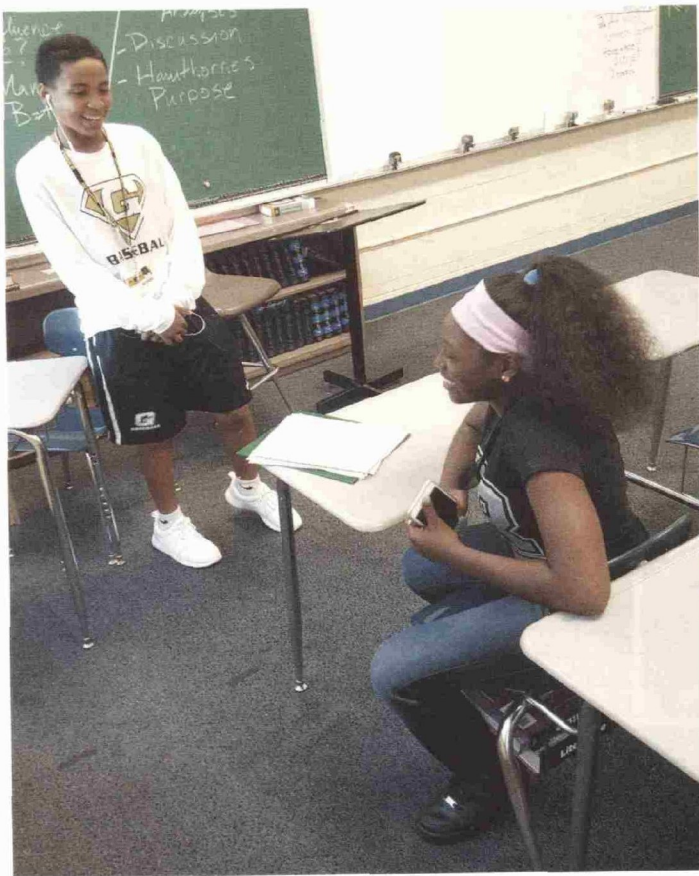
Alexis Kellum
Joenathan King
Benjamin Ladendorf
Anthony Lane
Jordan Langel
Timothy Lawson

Aaliyah Lee
Scott Lesczynski
Stephanie Lester
Christina Li
Jared Lisle
Julianne Long

Kaylen Long
Kyla Long
Emma Loomis
Ciara Lopez
Erin Lopez
Mateo Lopez



Taking notes in Julie Wencloff's biology class, sophomore Kevon Tillman pays close attention to Wencloff. "Mrs. Wencloff makes it easier to understand biology," said Tillman.



Talking to each other in class, sophomores Anson Wright and Kynide Williams are talking about their day. "I have fun learning in Mr. Dunlap's class and it's more laid back," said Wright.



At lunch, sophomore Raejean Whitehead and Dynahstee Moore are making a handshake. "Dynahstee has been my best friend since 7th grade and we hang out all the time," said Whitehead.

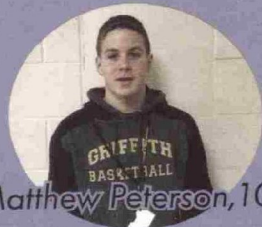
Biggest fear



Kamryn Pulliam, 10

"My biggest fear is getting hit by a car. The reason is because a few years back, a girl from my old school named Hope got hit by a car. It was just a horrible experience and I've been scared about getting hit by a car ever since."

"My biggest fears are heights and drowning. I can't stand being high up because I might fall, so I don't go roller coasters. If I drown I can't imagine how my lungs will feel. I don't want to die."

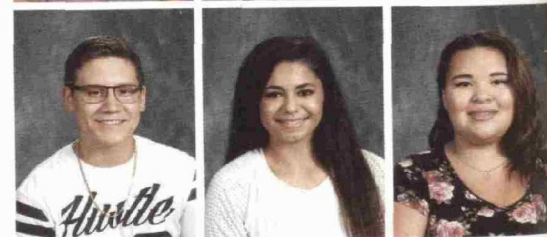


Matthew Peterson, 10

Sara Lopez
Jeremiah LuVert
Curlis Mackenthun

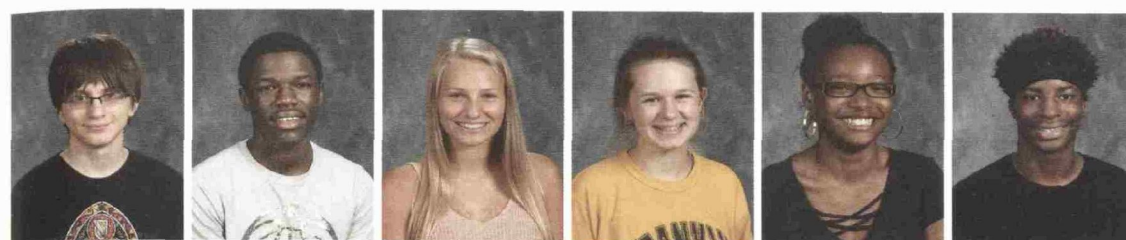


Luis Maldonado
Lena Mansour
Victoria Martinez

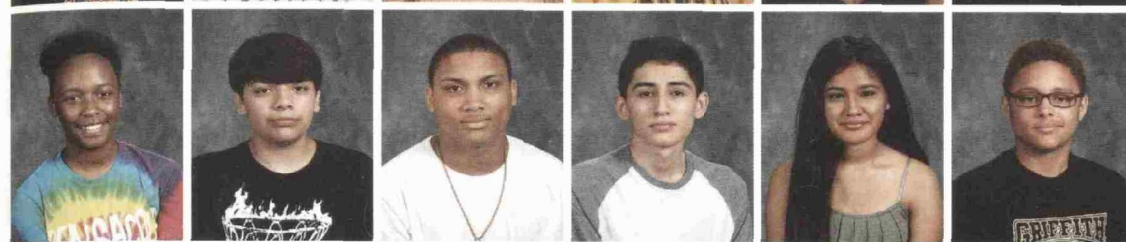


Jonathon Maynard
Nicole McCarter
Sean McSmith





Jacob Metz
Sayvion Miles
Macie Miller
Molly Mills
Amelia Mitchell
Mekhi Mitchell



Dynahstee Moore
Samuel Morales
Jalen Morris-Everage
Brian Muro
Diana Muro
Stephon Murphy



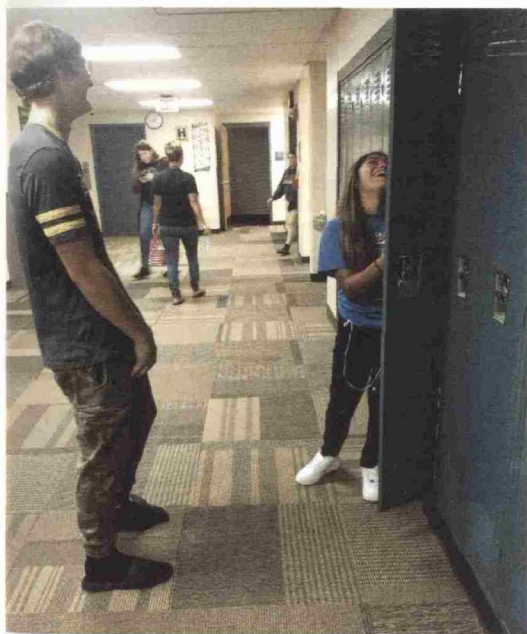
Faith Musa
Elmer Neal
Madalyn Nolan
Cade O'Brien
David O'Brien
Tyler Oldendorf



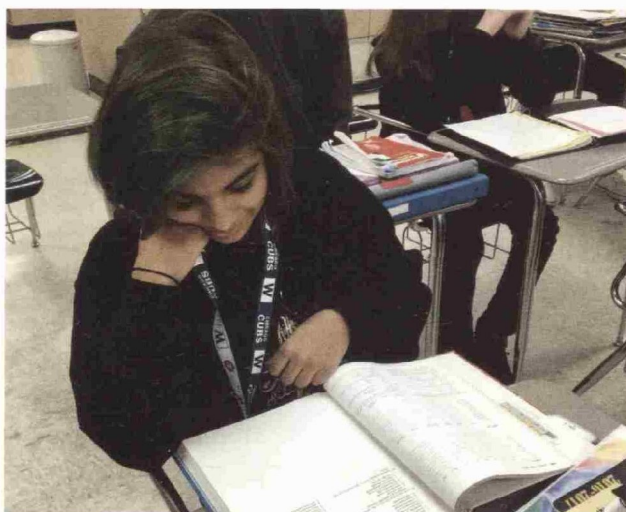
Mackenzie Olsen



Taking notes in Margaret Rivera's class, sophomore Brandon Prodoehl is writing down notes. "My favorite part about art is being able to express my feelings and freeing my mind," said Prodoehl.

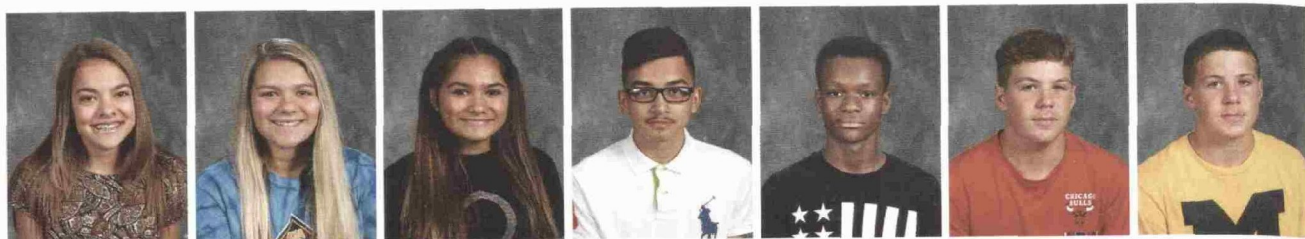


In the hallway at their lockers, sophomore Montana Torres and Vanessa Pena are laughing. "Some random guy ran up to us and screamed, we couldn't help but laugh," said Torres.

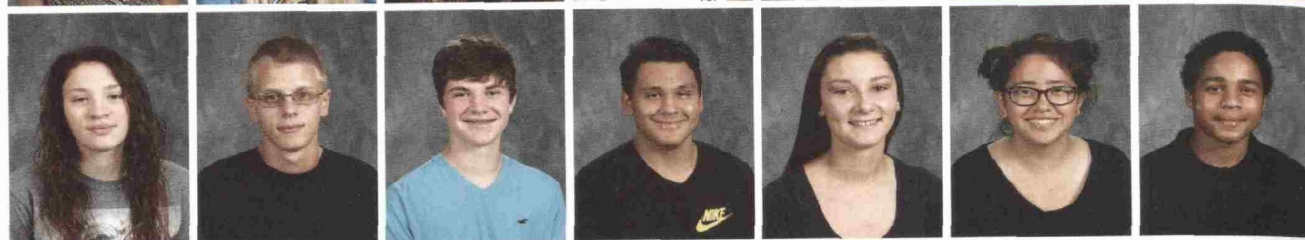


In Fred Farnell's class sitting in her desk, sophomore Zoe Dieguez is doing her classwork. "My favorite thing about Mr. Farnell's class is how he teaches, he gets so happy about teaching us," said Dieguez.

Grace Opinker
Trinity Page
Vanessa Pena
Luis Perez
Jalyn Perry-Bell
Joshua Peterson
Matthew Peterson



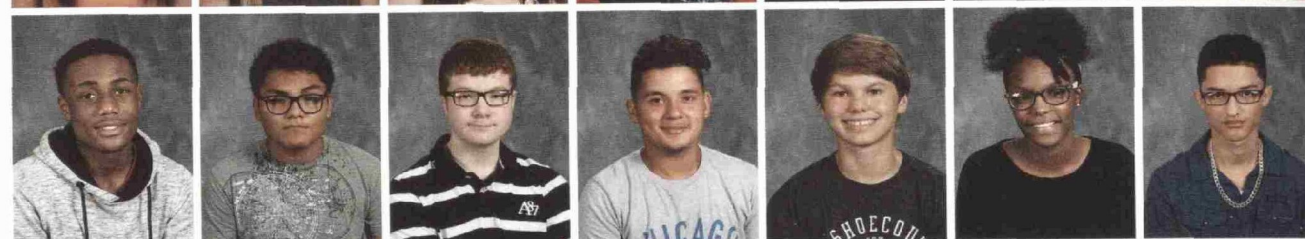
Abbegael Piunti
Matthew Plopper
Brandon Prodoehl
Gabriel Pulido
Kamryn Pulliam
Brianna Quintana
Christian Raglin



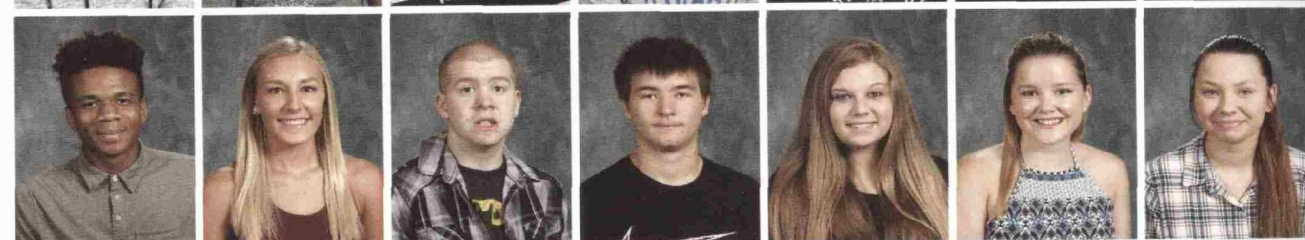
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Brooke Rassel
Rabekka Rex
Joshua Reynolds
James Roberts
Tyler Robertson
DayJah Robinson



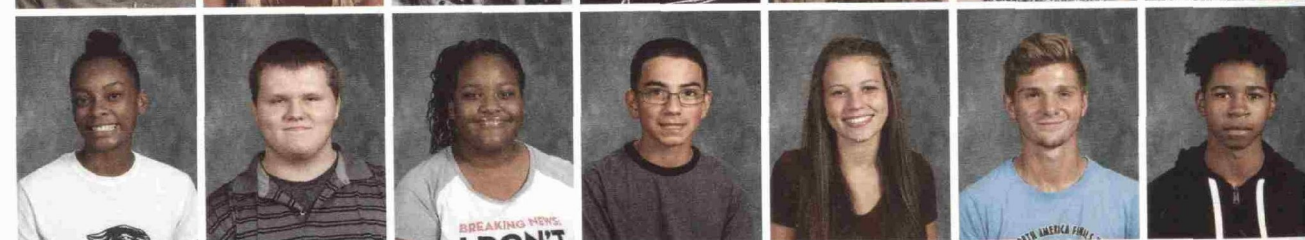
Xavier Robinson
Salim Rojas
Benjamin Rutherford
Diego Sanchez
John Sandefur
Jessica Sanders
Jihad Sanders



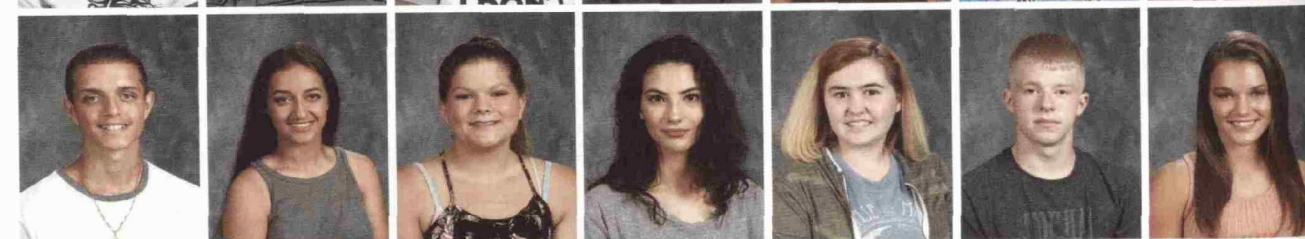
Triston Sanders
Avery Seberger
Nicholas Sharp
Austin Shelton
Zoe Shumaker
Camryn Sinars
Chyanne Skarzynski



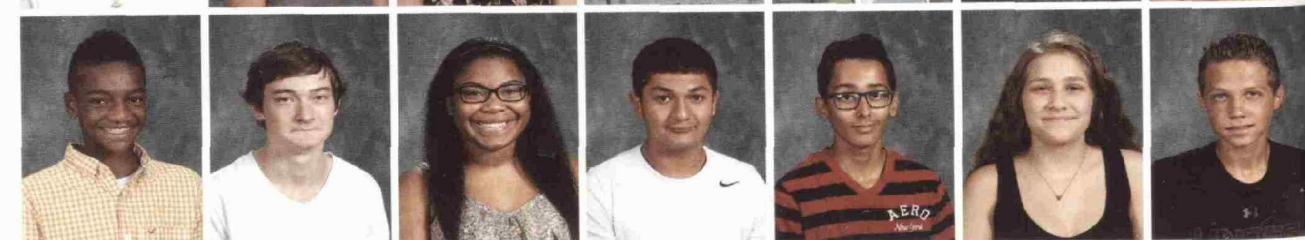
Alexia Smith
Danny Smith
Kayla Smith
Alejandro Sopher
Ariel Spore
Cameron Starks
De'Angelo Steward Lang



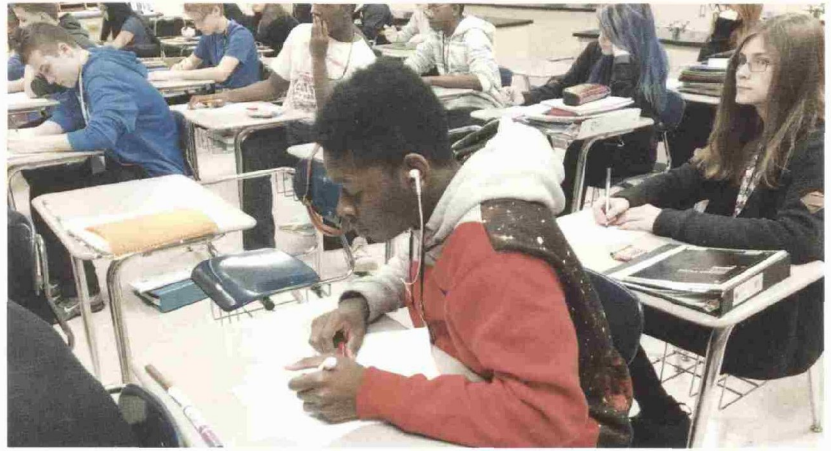
Marko Stosic
Nina Stosic
Kyleah Sturgill
Daanah Suboh
Maggie Swanson
Myles Taylor
Jessica Terzarial



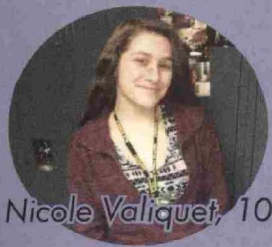
Kevon Tillman
Montana Torres
Ashley Trice
Cesar Valdez
Saul Valencia
Nicole Valiquet
Jonathon Vasilak



Focused, sophomore Jeremiah LuVert completes his work while listening to music in Biology class. "In the future I plan to be involved in the music industry, so being able to get my work done and listen to music eases my stress from school work," said LuVert.



Timely tales



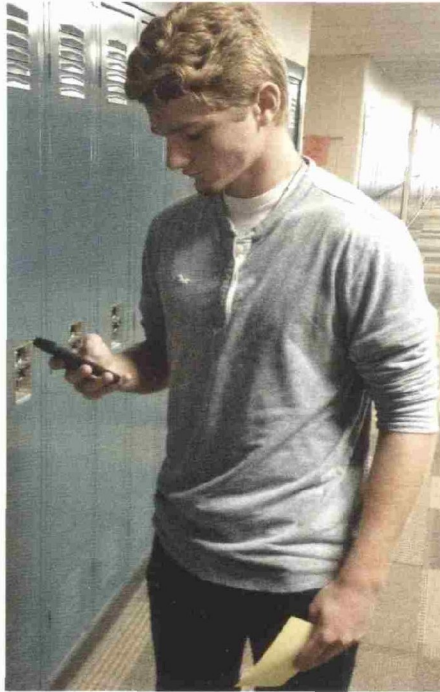
Nicole Valiquet, 10

"Being in the student section automatically gives you a good vibe and definitely has to be my best high school memory so far. I love pumping up my team from the sidelines, which I think is crucial to any sports event."

"The worst thing about being a sophomore is how the abundance of work you receive increases. My worst memory of high school so far is getting multiple packets on the same day that I had to complete overnight."



Demonie Whitehorn, 10



While checking his phone in the hallway, sophomore Cameron Starks takes advantage of his passing period before he has to go to his next class. "Being able to have a quick break to text my friends is relaxing," said Starks.



Julian Vazquez
John Vega
Michael Waite
Darea Warner
Kaleisha Washington
Micaela Weeks
Caitlin Whaley

Raejean Whitehead
Demonie Whitehorn
Cody Wilkins
Keshawn Williams
Kynide Williams
Jaedynn Williamson
Morgan Willis

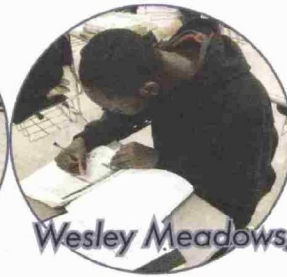
Antonio Wilson
Michael Worosz
Anson Wright
James Wurst
Rayshon Young
Paige Zoran
Alec Zuklin

JUNIORS

by: Vanessa Bullion &
Haley Dixon

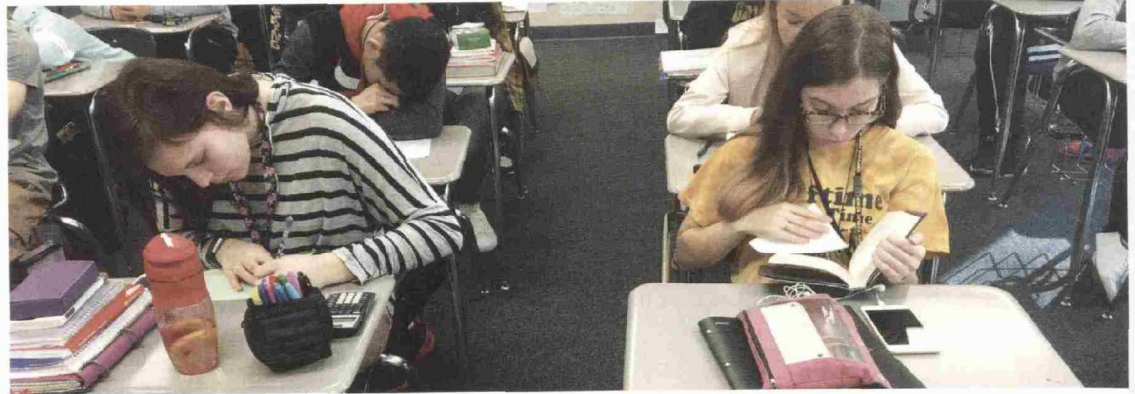


Jessica Lopez, 11

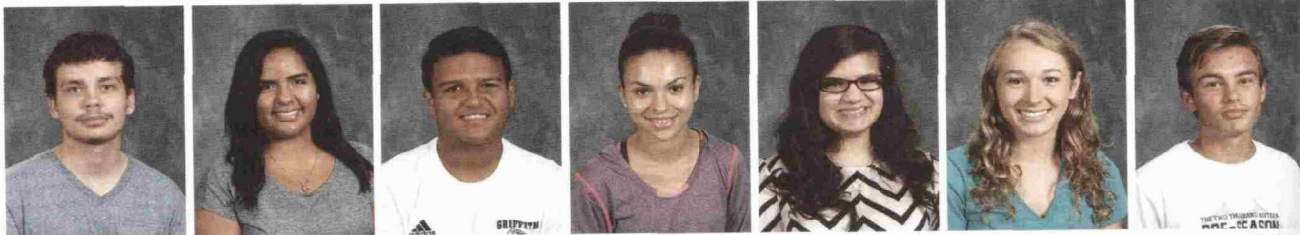


Wesley Meadows, 11

During ISTEP testing in Kristina Col-lard's room, junior Mary Lesko works on her homework. "I like having the extra time to study and do my home-work while others tested," said Lesko.



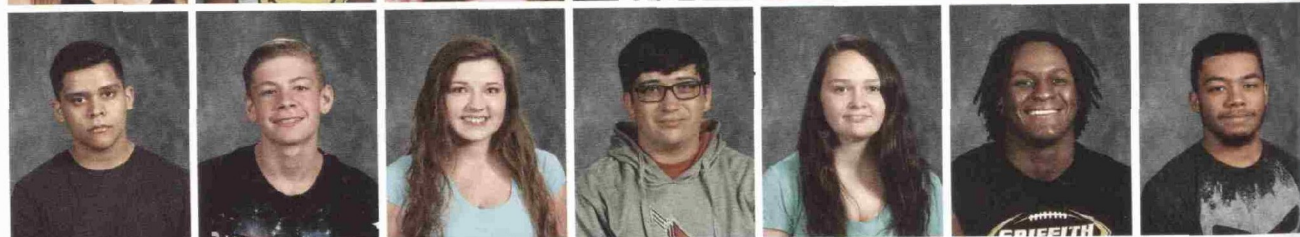
McGwire Adams
Marivel Aldaba
Matthew Alvarez
Islam Amara
Caelyn Aranda
Trinity Austin
Joshua Bacon



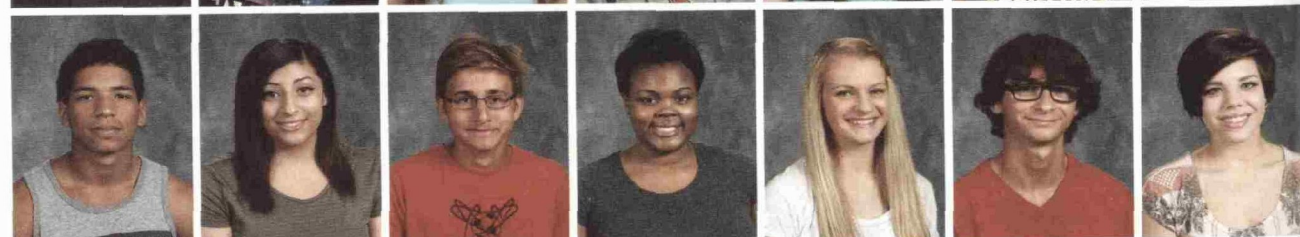
Cassandra Barnaby
Isis Bey-Boyd
Allison Biancardi
Cameron Bobos
Cole Bocock
Delia Booker
Molly Bradford



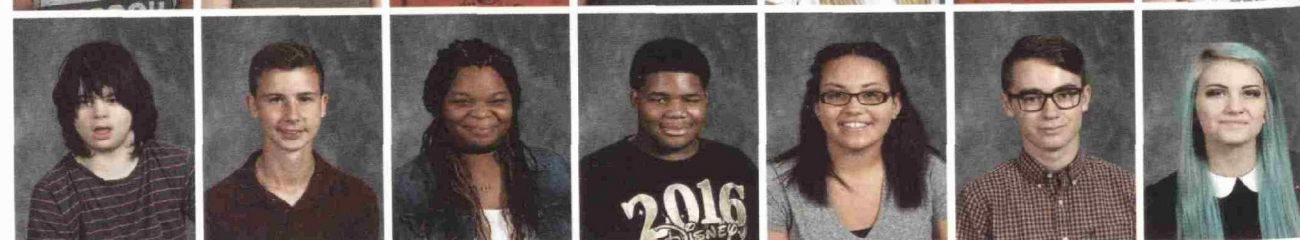
Jose Bugarin
Daniel Burbridge
Linzie Bytnar
Kyle Cartwright
Carrieanna Chumbley
Kadafi Coleman
Anthony Compton

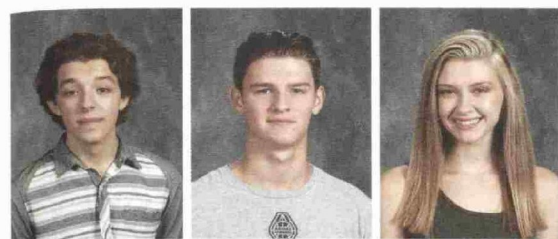


Jared Cottrell
Thalia Cuadra-Gandara
Jacob Damski
Jazaria Daniels
Skylar Davenport
Tyler Debold
Lily Desler



Conner Diamantopoulos
Jacob Diamond
Christina Dorsey
Christopher Dorsey
Mikaela Dragus
Gabriel Dudlicek
Jolie Dunn





Scott Dybel
Jake Dye
Leah Dye

While at Potbellys for his sister's soccer fundraiser, junior Cameron Bobos supports the team. "I enjoyed going to get the sandwiches at a discount and do something non-school related," said Bobos.

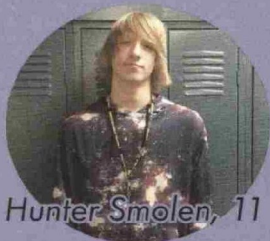
Weird foods



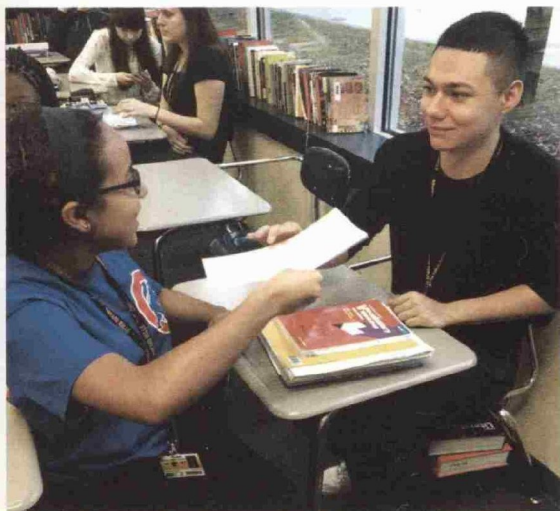
Brianna Saucedo, 11

"Since I was six I've been eating spinach. Most kids wouldn't eat spinach or try it on their own, but I did both. One day I had a piece of pizza with spinach on it and I didn't know what it was so I just ate it. To this day I still eat spinach."

"I used to eat macaroni and cheese with ketchup. My sister always ate it and one day she made me try it. Even though when I tried it I thought it was disgusting, I still ate it for over a year just because my sister ate it that way."



Hunter Smolen, 11



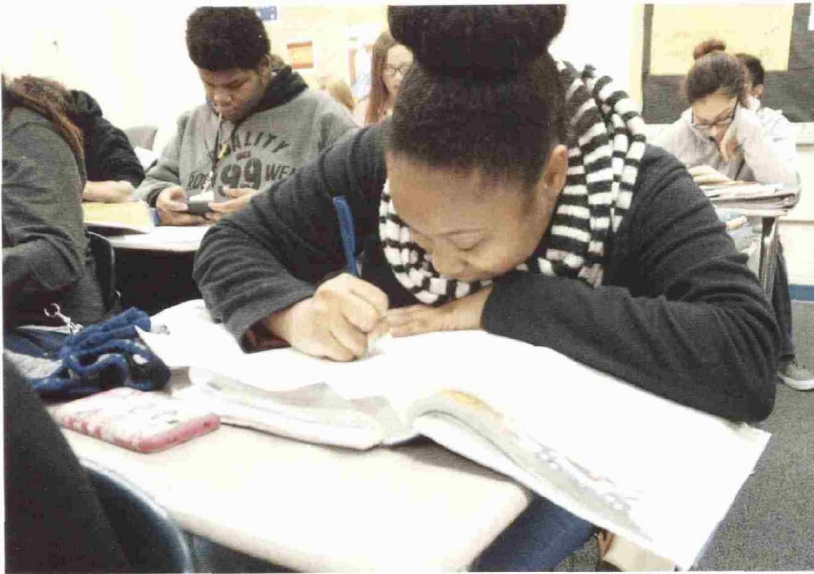
In Dawn Weeks English class, junior Giselle Valentin works with junior Adrian Rodriguez. "I like talking and working with my friends in this class," said Valentin.



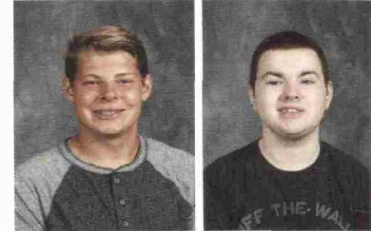
Working on her project for Jim Graff's ceramic class, junior Cassandra Gallivan is cutting her strips of clay. "I enjoy making things with clay because it allows you to be creative," said Gallivan.

During C lunch, juniors Christopher Mares and Emily Marsh talk about their day. "I like to catch up with my friends at lunch because I don't get to see them throughout the day," said Mares.

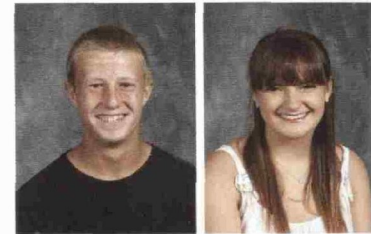
Working on a U.S. history study guide, junior Keyana Mackerel is preparing for her upcoming test. "I always make sure I study for my tests because it's important to get good grades," said Mackerel.



Alexis Engle
Elvee Evans



Shawn Falstrom
Brett Faucault



Zachary Fisch
Storm Fleming



Rebecca Flores
Bailey Gaffney



Adolpho Galan
Merry Galindo



Haley Gearhart
Taylor Grady

Graduating Early



Alexis Engle, 11

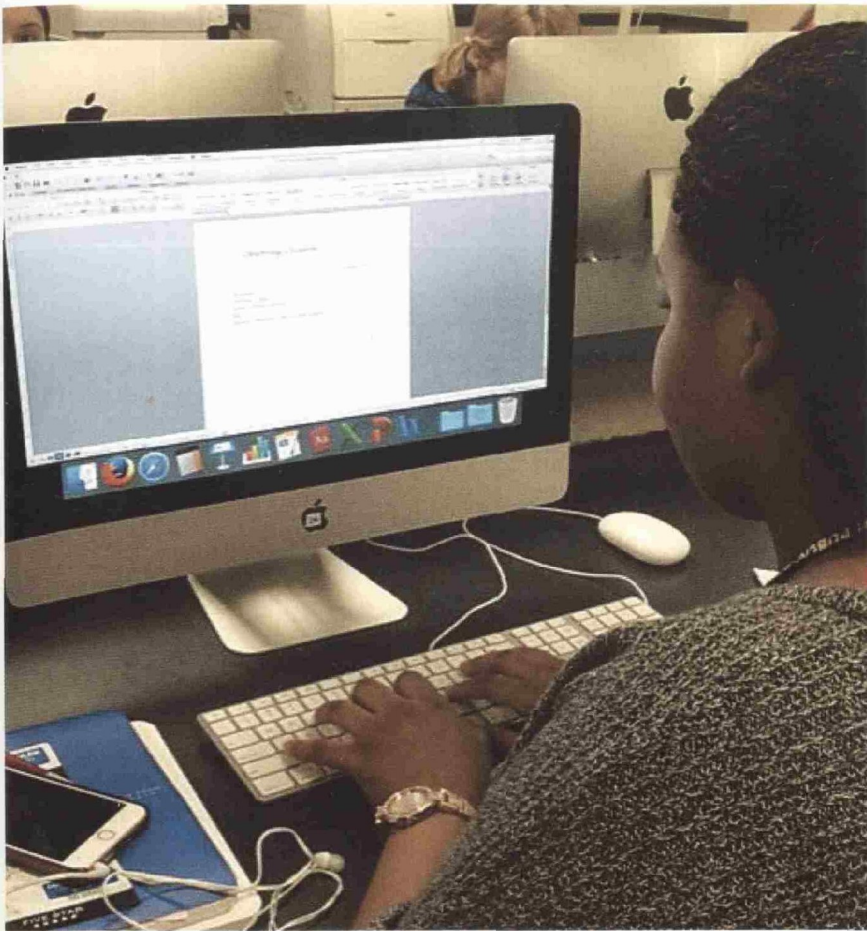
"I want to graduate early because it will give me a head start for college. I feel that if I already have enough credits to graduate in the first place there is no reason to go another year. I plan to attend IUN for nursing and stay in a dorm for the first year. After that I want to stay home."

"The reason I wanted to graduate early is because it is pointless to stay if I already have all of my 40 credits. I either plan to go to Vincennes to study business management for my major or go into the military. I'm still debating on whether to attend college in the fall of 2017 or go into the service."

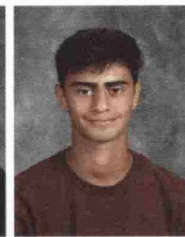
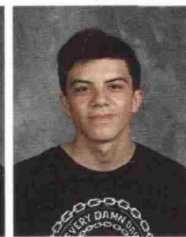
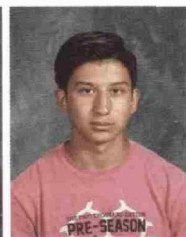
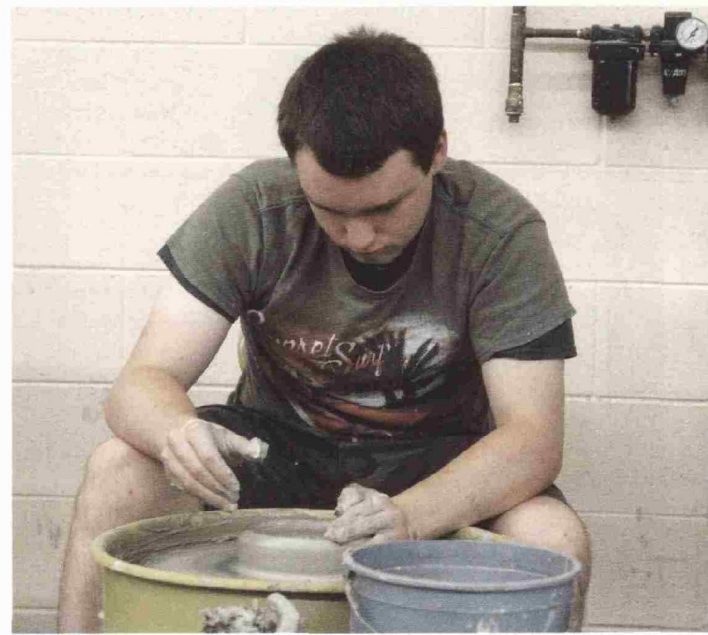


Alexis Johnson, 11

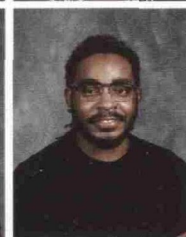
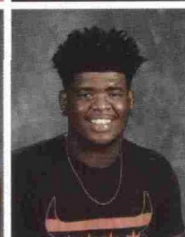
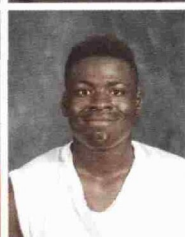
While typing an assignment, junior Christina Dorsey diligently works on her observation project. "I loved the project because observing the way children respond to situations is fascinating," said Dorsey.



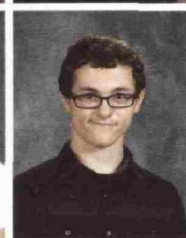
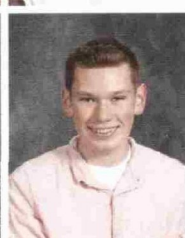
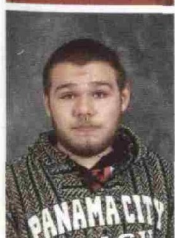
Hard at work in ceramics class, junior Luke Sutherland constructs a pot made of clay. "I like learning the basics of making a pot even though clay gets all over your clothes," said Sutherland.



Shawn Graham
Maurice Grandberry
Pedro Guerrero
Robert Gunty
Marcelino Gutierrez
Shadi Haddad
Luke Haney



William Hansen
Larone Harden
Amari Harris
Aarion Harvey
Deaaron Harvey
Zaria Henley
Nicholas Herrera

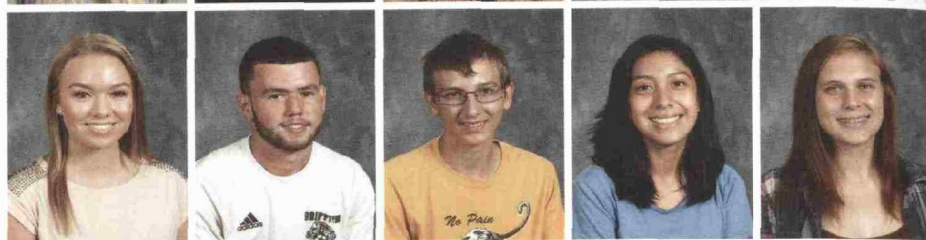


Allen Huff
Benjamin Jacobs
Giovantae Johnson
Tatum Josephson
Tyler Josephson
Nathan Klingensmith

Lindsay Krajnik
Kacie Kruhaj
Madeline Kruse
Stephen Kunka
Bobby Lacy



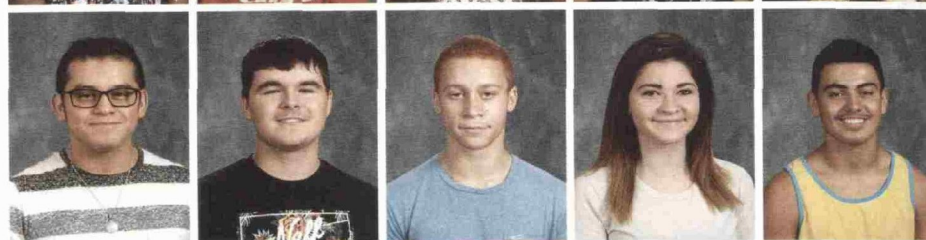
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Patrick Land
John Lawson
Leslie Leon-Aguilar
Mary Lesko



Taylor Little
Austin Lomax
Jessica Lopez
Keyana Mackerel
Kylie Maloney



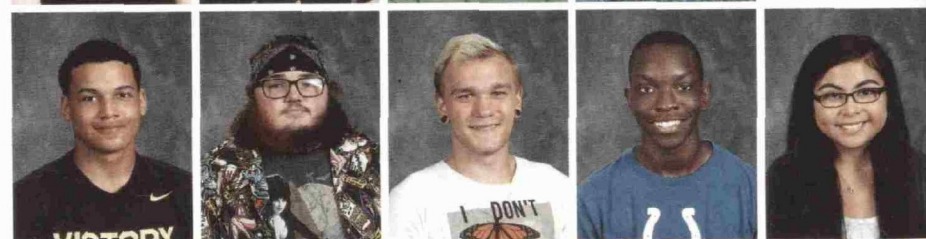
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Trevor Marlow
Marcus Marquand
Emily Marsh
Erik Martinez



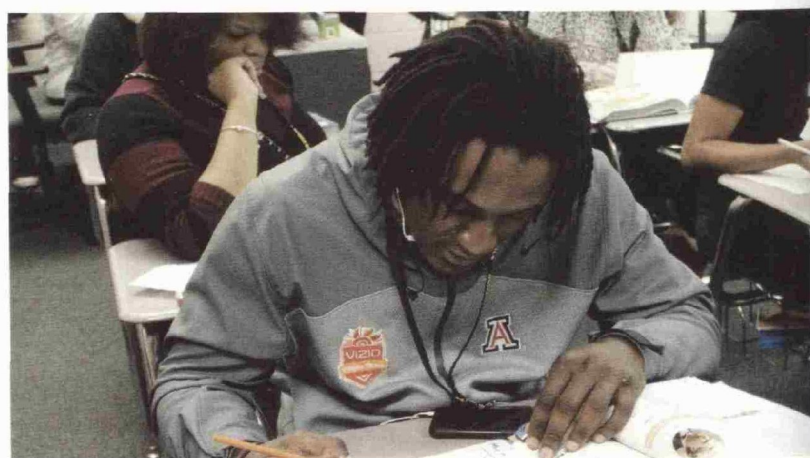
Veronica Matthews
Kristin Matyka
Kyle McCarter
Thomas McCarthy
Terrence McCray



Adonise McCully
Maxwell McLean
Collin Meadows
Wesley Meadows III
Julia Medrano



Studying for a test, junior Kadafi Coleman finishes up notes. "History is one of my favorite classes because I like to learn about past events. I think it's important to know history when dealing with events our country is facing today," said Coleman.

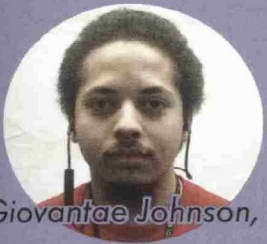




Nina Mendoza
Alexis Metcalf
Victoria Metcalf
Angelica Meyer
Sedrick Miles
Hailey Moore

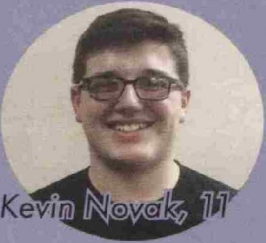
Clarissa Mosely
Justin Moyo
Alaa Mroueh
Santiago Muro-Murillo
Brian Narug
Ezekiel Nettles

Wish I had



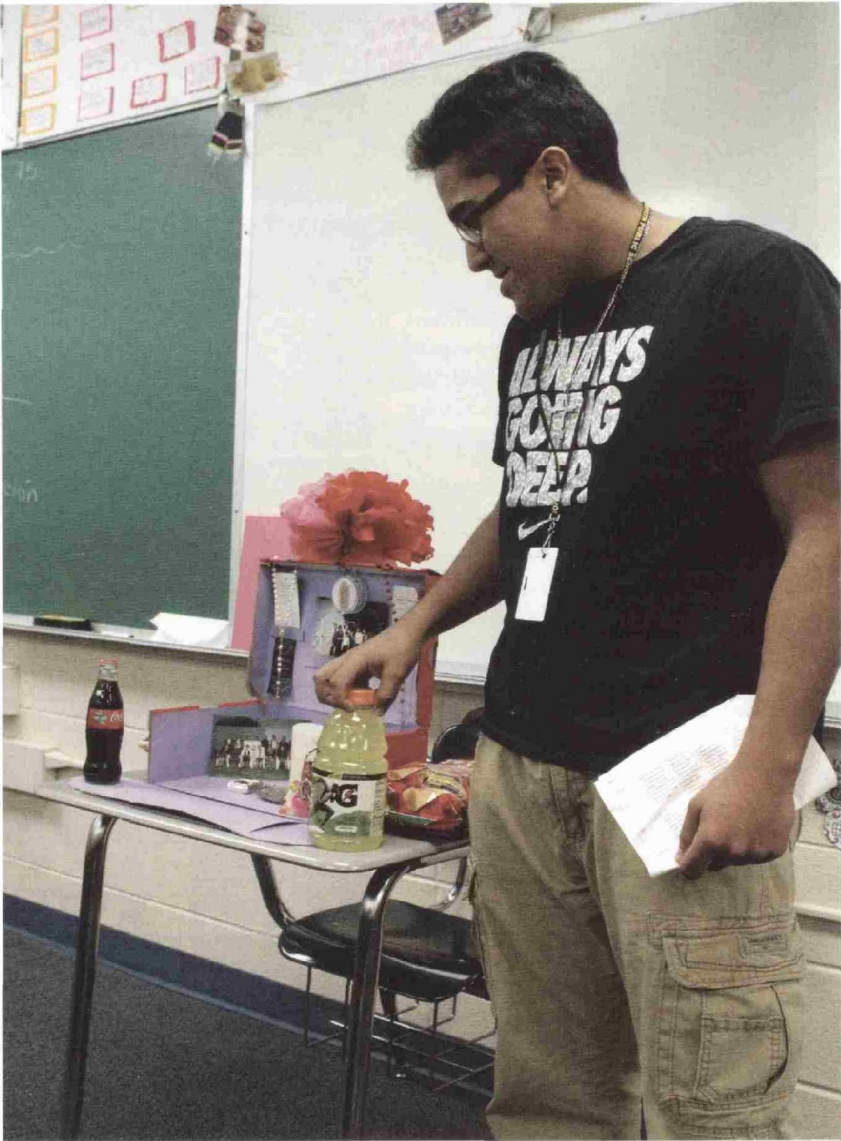
Giovantae Johnson, 11

"I've always really wished that I would've tried taking higher level math classes, as I've always wanted to be an accountant. Higher level math classes would have helped me easier pursue my ultimate goal in the future."

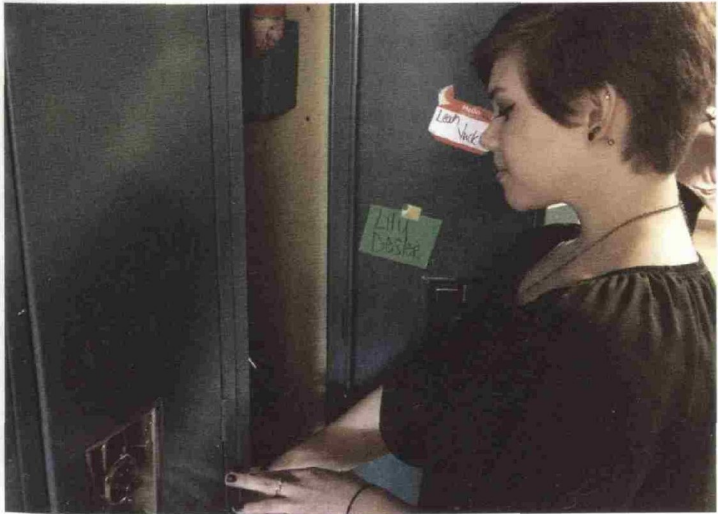


Kevin Novak, 11

"I wish I would've gotten a job sooner. I work at Strack & Van Til now. It's a great job, and it's nice to work there. The managers can be a little hard, but it's still a nice job. My coworkers are friendly and the work there isn't super strenuous."

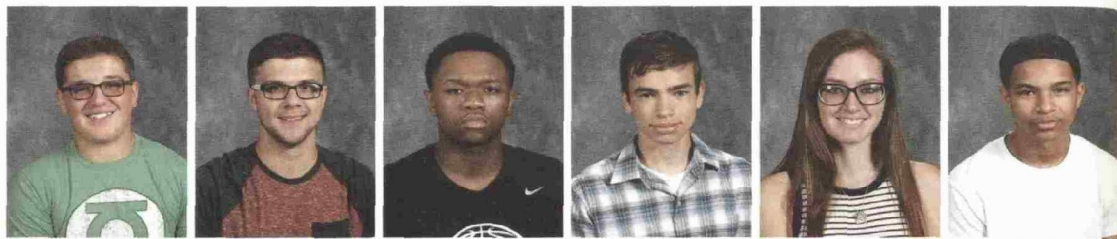


With a smile on his face, junior Rafael Valencia presents his Dia de los Muertos project. "It was a fun project to do, and it took me about a week to make. I did it on my grandparents. It was easy to present because Spanish is my first language," said Valencia.



To start off her day, junior Lily Desler pulls her things from her locker. "I like passing periods because my locker neighbors are my friends and I get to talk to them in between periods. I visit my locker after every period," said Desler.

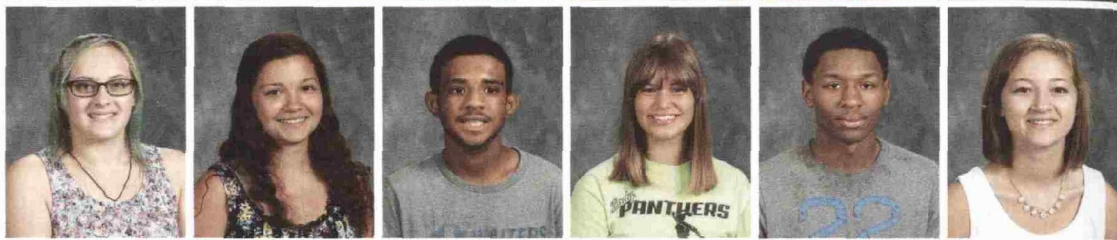
Kevin Novak
Ethan O'Brien
Milan Odufuye
Jeremy Paganelli
Samantha Pelot
Matthew Perez



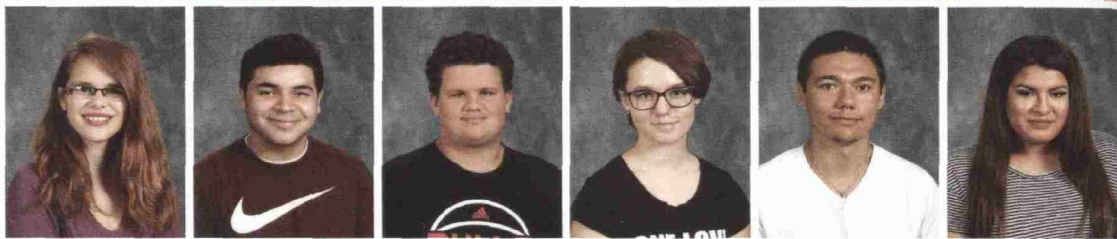
Thomas Perez
Elizabeth Perkovich
Maegan Perkovich
Makiyah Perry-Bell
Matthew Pierson
Trenton Pulliam



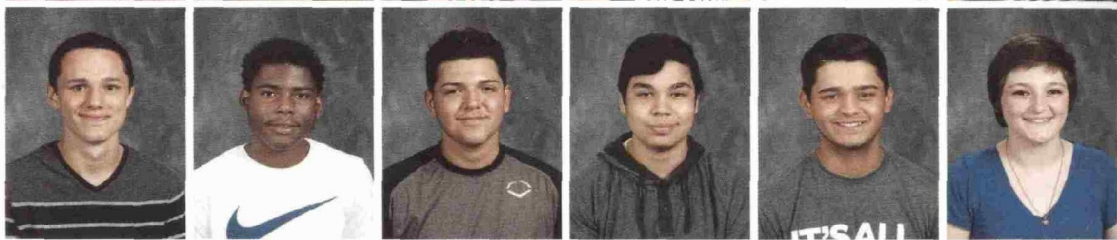
Sarah Purcell
Gabrielle Quintana
Zachery Raglin
Hannah Ramirez
Lamar Ratney
Laura Reid



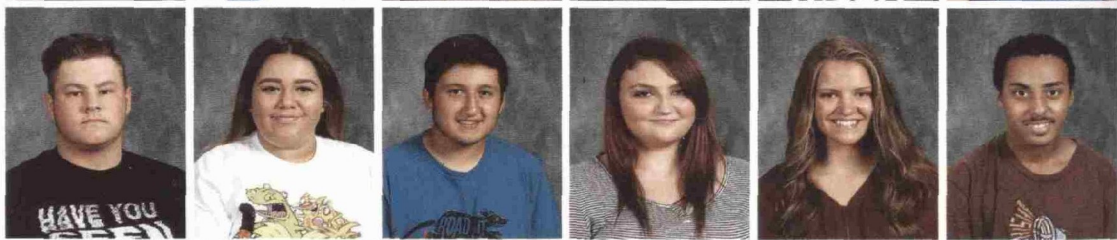
Samantha Rettie
Christian Rivera
Trace Robertson
Kyley Rockwell
Adrian Rodriguez
Angelika Rodriguez



Anthony Rodriguez
Hugh Rogers
Xavier Romero
Jesse Rosario
Julian Rutherford
Anna Saberniak



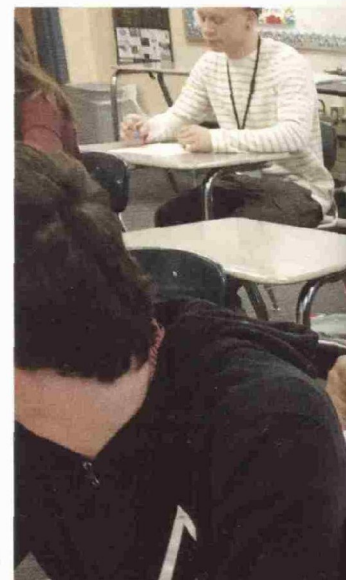
Christopher Sarang
Brianna Saucedo
Christian Schafer
Megan Schambers
Alicia Schoon
Brandon Shamblee

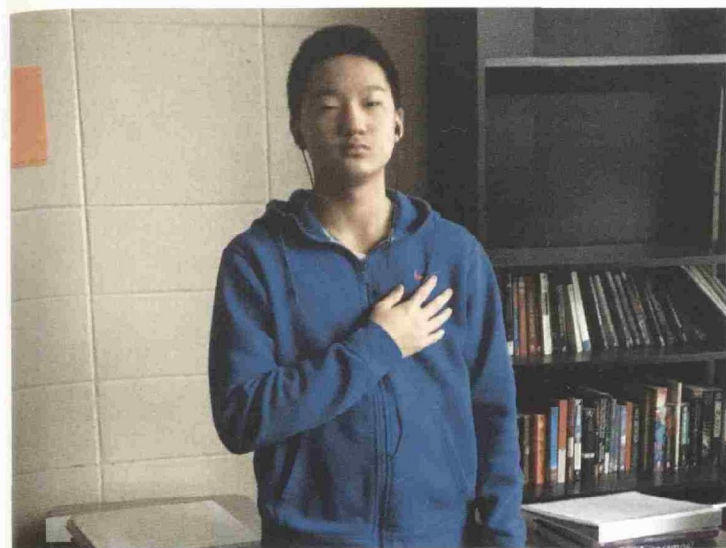


Zachary Shelley
Breanne Shipp
Lacey Shipp
Mikensie Shultman



Working on a reading comprehension worksheet over the short story "The Tell Tale Heart" for his English class, junior Christopher Dorsey learns about how to translate Edgar Allen Poe's writing. "Ms. Weeks can be a very strict teacher, but we always end up learning something new everyday in her class," said Dorsey.





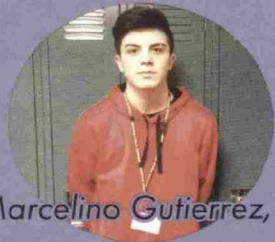
Standing for the Pledge of Allegiance in his first hour class, junior Khuslen Solongo said the pledge along with Senior Trevor Sheffield on the video announcements, "I feel very proud when I stand for the pledge because I'm lucky to live in a country where I'm free. I like showing respect to our country," said Solongo.

Most Embarrassing Moment



Gabrielle Quintana, 11

"My most embarrassing moment was probably two weeks ago when I fell going up the stairs to Mr. McCoy's class. I dropped all my books and people started laughing at me. My face turned red and I ended up bruising my elbow. It was not one of my best moments."

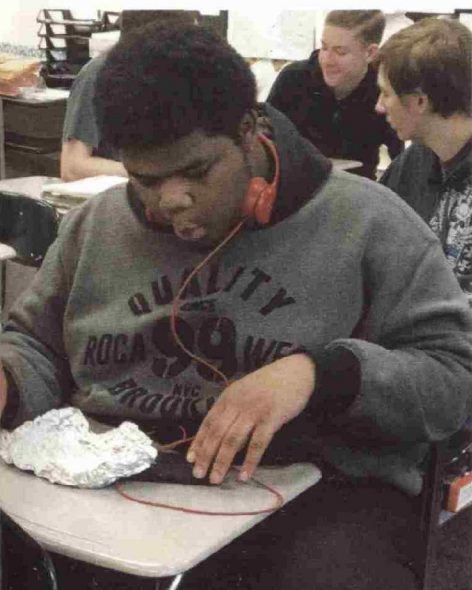


Marcelino Gutierrez, 11

"Freshman year I ended up ripping my pants in gym when Tayvien picked me up. I covered up my ripped pants with my sweater and all my friends laughed at me. I was honestly laughing too, so it was all good, but I was very embarrassed when I first saw the rip."



As he shapes his pot of clay in his ceramics class, junior Adrian Rodriguez completes his ceramic vase, "At first I thought making pots was going to be a real challenge but it really isn't that challenging at all after I worked at it some more," said Rodriguez.

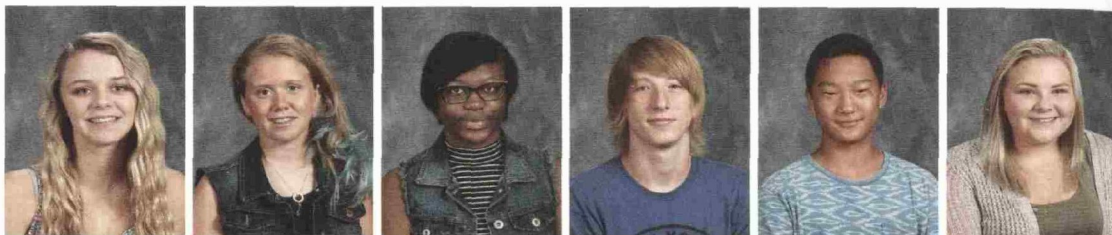


Talking in the lunch line, junior Mackenna Sons and junior Jessica Lopez wait to get their lunch. "We were talking about our plans to go to the Grindhouse Cafe after school together and we try to hangout at least once a week," said Sons.

Since it was test day in Fred Farnell's chemistry class, junior Shadi Haddad lends a pencil to junior Justin Moyo. "I enjoy chemistry because Mr. Farnell is an awesome teacher, and his tests aren't that hard," said Haddad.



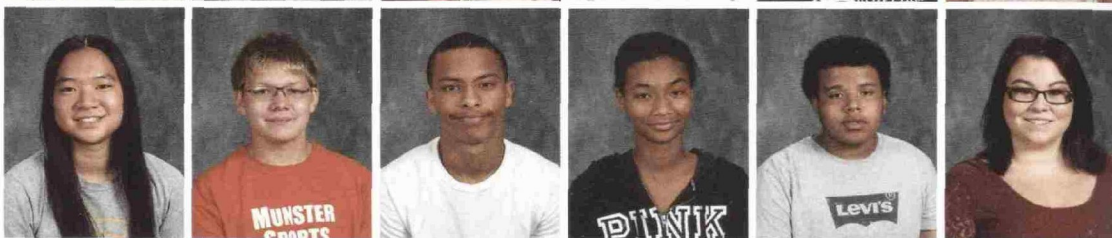
Sierra Slaven
Courtney Smith
Yamia Smith
Hunter Smolen
Khuslen Solongo
Makenna Sons



Samuel Stassin
Zachary Steele
Hannah Stettin
Alizjah Stokes
Luke Sutherland
Kyle Sutton

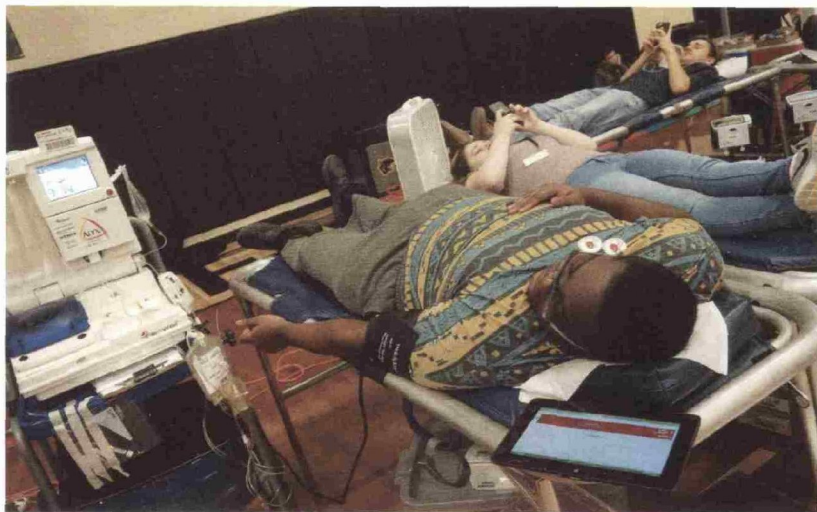


Grace Szymanski
Matthew Thomas
Antoine Thompson
India Tillman
Marcus Tucker
Autumn Ukso



On January 23, students donated their blood to the Red Cross. "I have donated blood before and I enjoy doing it because it makes me feel positive because I am helping others," said junior Sedrick Miles.

"Lunch is one of my favorite parts of the day because I am able to take a break from all of my school work and socialize with friends," said junior Jessica Lopez. Holding a bottle of water, Lopez talks to her friends around the lunch table.



Senior year fears



Storm Fleming, 11

"My biggest fear for senior year is that next year is my last year of high school. After next year, I will be going to college and leaving all my friends that I have now. I'm nervous because I feel like college will be a lot more difficult compared to high school."

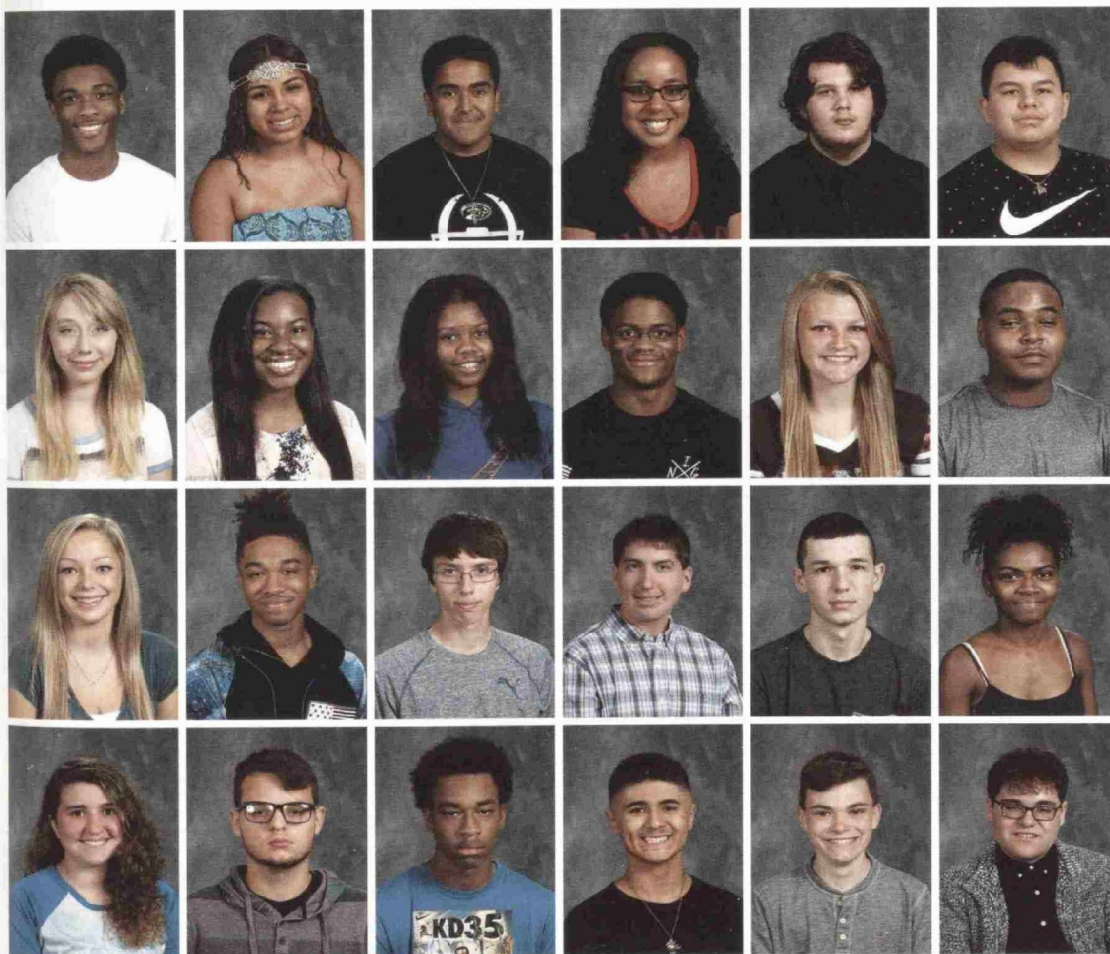
"My biggest fear for senior year is that I won't end up passing one of my classes and receive my credits. I want to make sure that next year I do my best in all my classes and finish the school year with high grades. Then I'll be able to graduate happily."



Madeline Kruse, 11



During ceramics class, junior Stephen Kunka works on the potters wheel to create his own pot. "Ceramics is an exciting class because I can be creative and design what I want," said Kunka.

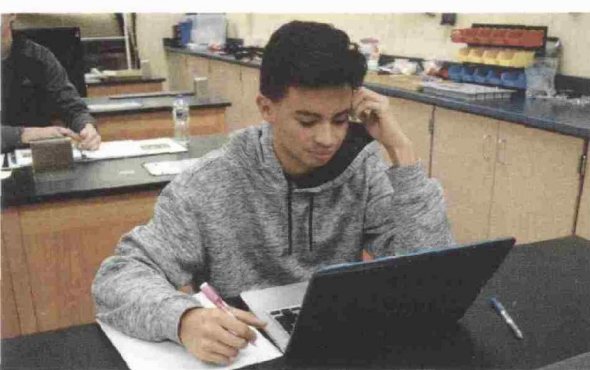


Derion Unger
Jaylene Valdivia
Rafael Valencia
Giselle Valentin
Zackary Valiquet
Jesus Vazquez

Leah Vuckovich
Deleah Walker
Keyirra Walker
Tayvien Walker
Marrissa Walter
Justin Walton

Erica Ward
Dejauvia Ward Hickman
Daniel Welch
Mark Whitlock
Damian Wilfong
Jahmara Williams

Megan Wilson
Zechariah Winchester
Fredrick Winston
Matthew Yanez
Garrett Zambo
Kevin Zaragoza



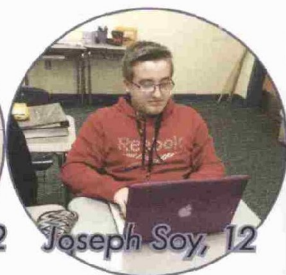
Sitting in his robotics class, senior Cristian Haddock begins taking notes from his computer on how to perfect the building of a robot for the robotics teams next competition. "I was writing engineering notes in my notebook from my computer," said Haddock.

SENIORS

by: Haley Dixon



Megan Madrigal, 12



Joseph Soy, 12

Renee Adams

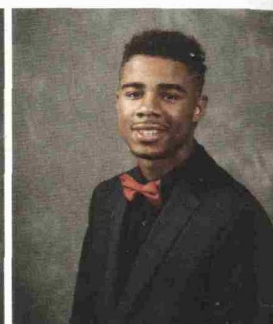
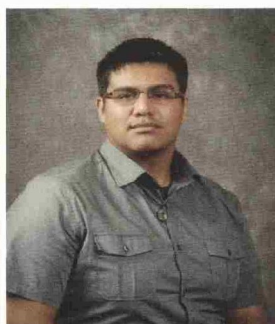
Booster Club 10, 11, 12 Drama 12 (Hair and Makeup crew) FCCIA 12 Track 12 International Club 10, 11, 12

Emmanuel Aguirre

Alecia Albanese
Bowling 9, 10, 11, 12 Softball 9, 10, 11 Choir 9, 10

Isaiah Allen

Football 9, 11, 12 Track 10, 11, 12



Tyler Allen

Daniel Almaraz

Islam Amara

Karol Ames

Pantherettes 9, 10 Drama 10, 11, 12 Class Council 12 Turnabout Court Newspaper 9, 10 Booster Club 9, 10

Sean Bailey

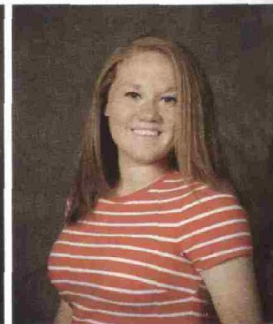
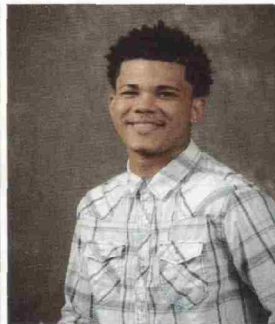
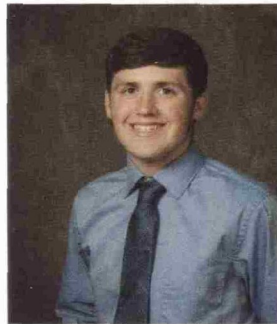
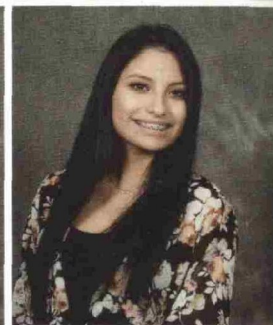
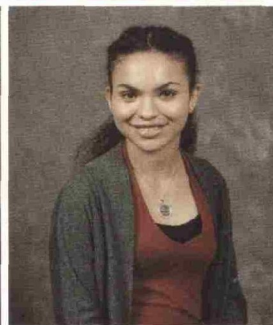
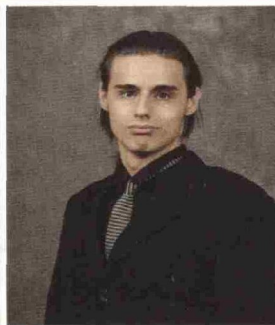
Keon Ball

Bridget Beck

Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 Student Council 9, 10, 11, 12 (VP 11) National Honors Society 11, 12 International Club 10, 11 Class Council 9, 10, 11, 12 Math Academic Superbowl 10, 11, 12 Best Buddies 12 Newspaper 12

Michelle Beck

Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 10, 11, 12) Student Council 10, 11, 12 (Secretary 12) National Honor Society 11, 12 (Historian 12) Class Council 9, 10, 11, 12 Academic Superbowl 10, 11, 12 Best Buddies 11, 12 Newspaper 11, 12 Track 12

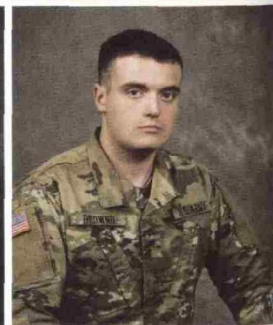
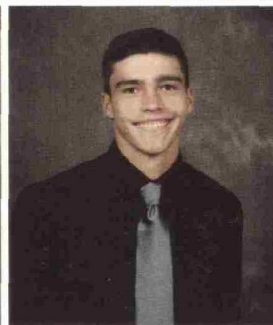
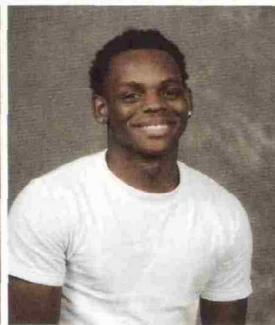
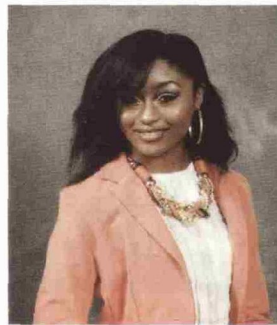


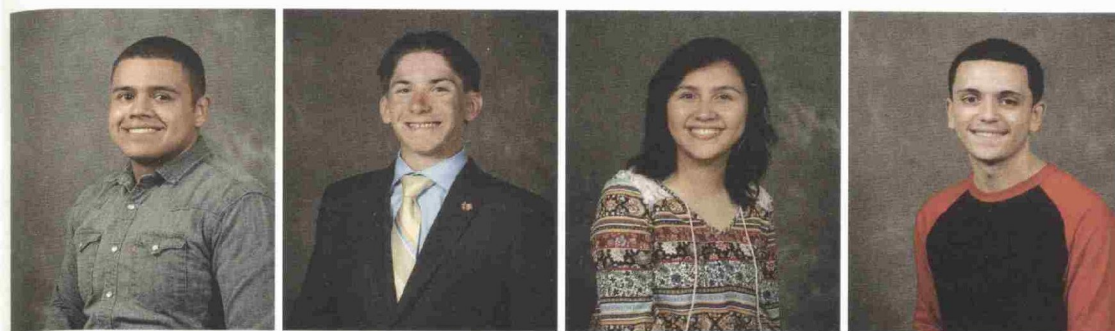
Jazzamin Benjamin

Tray Boone

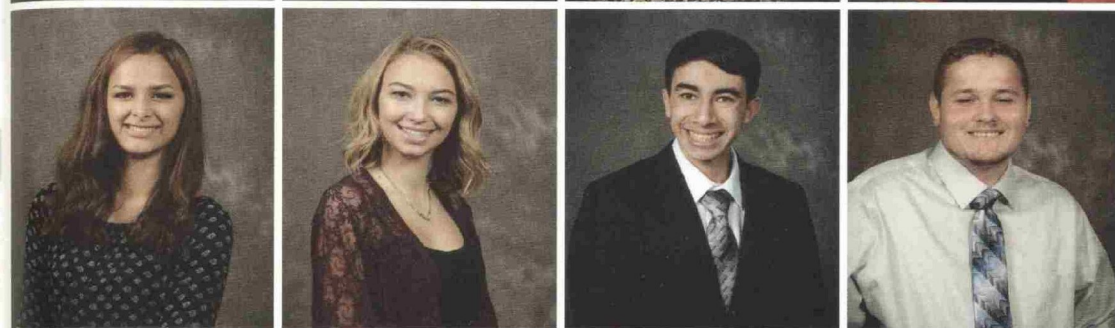
Luke Broelmann

Zachary Brownd





Diego Burgos
Anthony Caffarella
Michelle Cano
Elias Caraballo



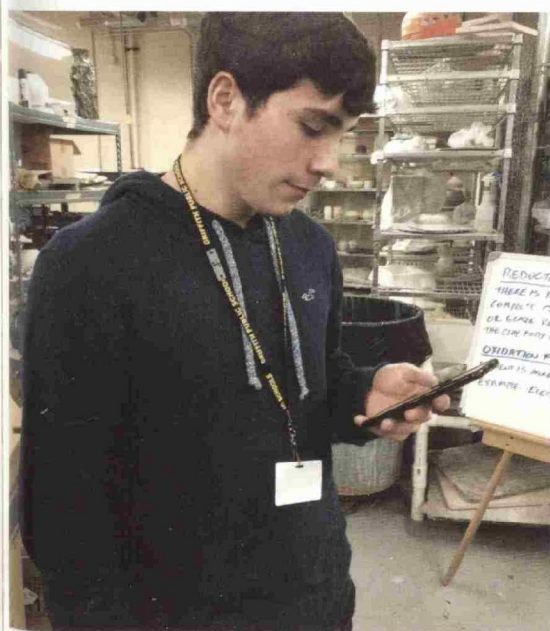
Julia Carrillo
Marching Band 9, 10, 11, 12 Pep Band 9, 10, 11,
12 Jazz Band 9, 10, 11, 12 National Honor Society
11, 12 International Club 10, 11 Pit Band 10
Maxine Carroll
Volleyball 9, 10, 11 Basketball 9 Band 9, 10
Paranormal Society 12
Joshua Cavazos
Lonnie Chabes III



Phillip Cherry
Jenny Chur
Tatyana Cima de Villa
Courtany Cobb



Alexea Collins
Dennis Colomes
Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12 Football 9 Soccer 11 Student
Council 12 Class Council 12 NHS 11, 12 DECA
11, 12
Hunter Conaghan
National Honor Society 12 DECA 11, 12 FCCLA 11,
12 Paranormal Society 11, 12 Basketball 9, 10
Cameron Crowe



While checking his grades on the Powerschool app, senior Danny Escorza waits for the bell to ring in ceramics class. "I'm going to miss all my friends and the sports I play once I finish my senior year," said Escorza.

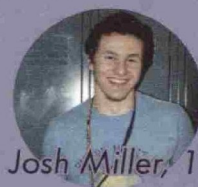
Embarrassing moment



Erin Escorza, 12

"My most embarrassing moment was when I ripped my pants so I had Mrs. Scheidel sew them, but when I put them back on, they ripped again."

"Freshman year I was taking notes in biology when my chair broke and I fell on the ground, flipping my desk over and everybody laughed."



Josh Miller, 12

Thalia Cuadra
Joe Cunningham

Rachel Deck
Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 11, 12) Class
Council 9, 10, 11, 12 Booster Club 9, 10, 11 Best
Buddies 11

Jessica Diaz

Abbey Dobosz

Pantherettes 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 10, 11, 12)
National Honor Society 11, 12 (President 12) Student
Council 9, 10, 11, 12 (Treasurer 11, Vice President
12) Academic Superbowl 10, 11, 12 (Captain 11,
12) Newspaper 11, 12 Booster Club 9, 10, 11, 12

Sabrina Dodson

Softball 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Cheerleading
9, 10

Sylvie Dowd

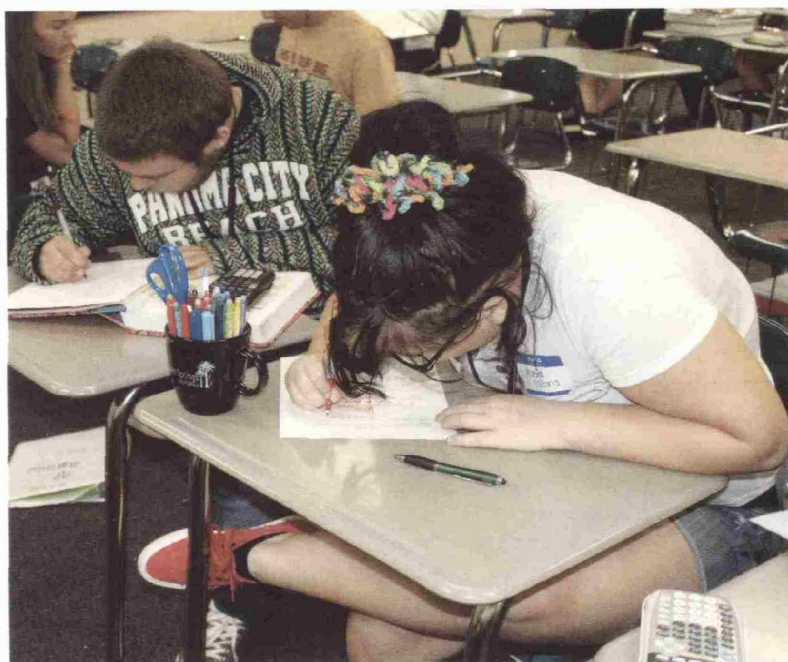
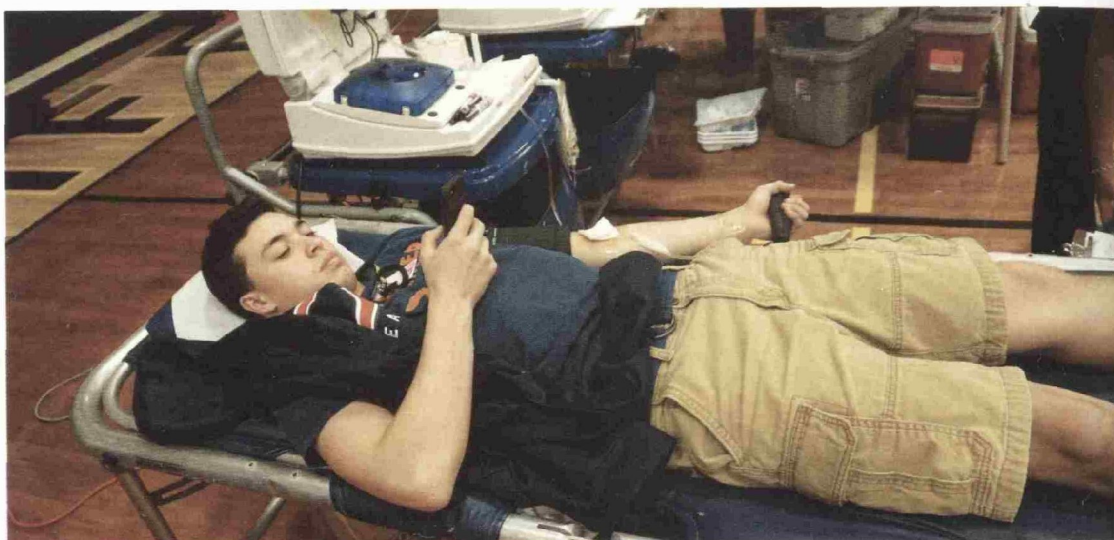
Drama 9, 10, 11, 12 (Honor Bar 12) Chorale 10,
11, 12 (Soprano Section Leader 12) National
Honor Society 11, 12 International Club 10, 11
(Secretary 11)

Jolie Dunn



While donating blood, senior Michael Villalobos plays a game on his phone to pass the time. "I have Type O blood so they asked me if I would donate half a pint extra. I felt tired after, but it was worth it," said Villalobos.

Doing partner work, junior Allen Huff and senior Alexea Collins help each other out with a worksheet. "Alexea and I are friends, so we work well together in class," said Huff.



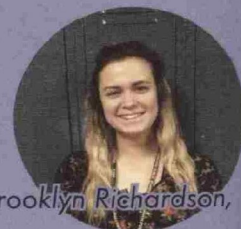
Next chapter



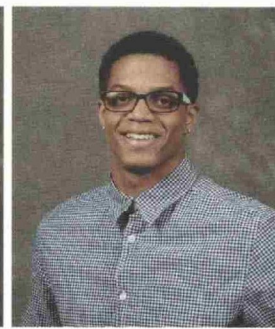
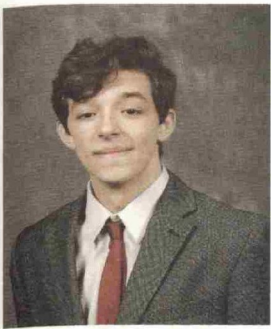
Heather Steele, 12

"In the fall I will be attending Calumet College of St. Joseph and I am majoring in education. I received a full ride academic and golf scholarship. I'm nervous, but I know it'll be an experience I won't forget."

"I got accepted into the Health Sciences Program at IUPUI and will be following pre-med. I received a \$10,000 scholarship plus financial aid. I will live on campus with my roommate, a girl from South Bend."



Brooklyn Richardson, 12



Scott Dybel

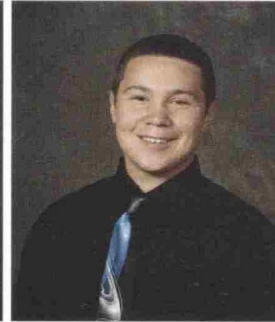
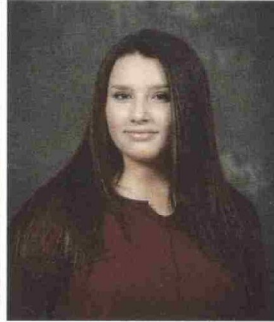
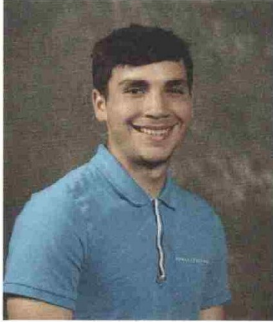
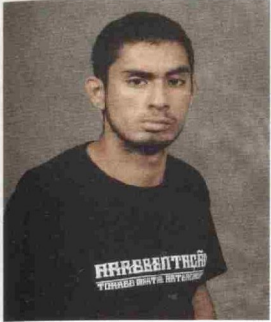
Leanna Early

Yearbook 10, 11, 12 (Business Manager 11, 12)
Swimming 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) Drama 10, 11,
12 National Honor Society 11, 12 Color Guard 11,
12 Tennis 9, 10

Alexis Engle

Yearbook 10 Cheerleading 9, 10

Al Ervin



Ramiro Escamilla

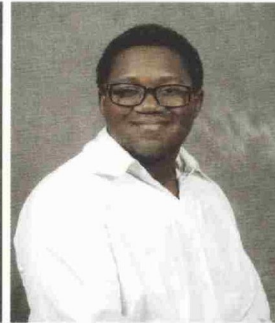
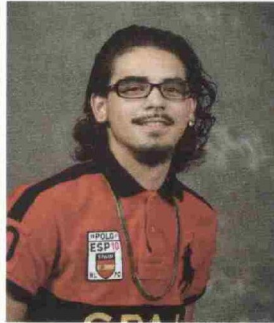
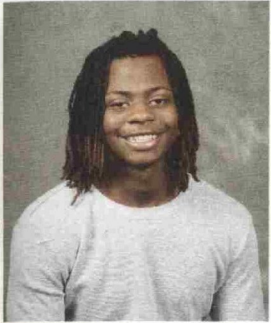
Daniel Escorza

Soccer 10, 12

Erin Escorza

Paranormal Society 11, 12

Stevie Esquivel

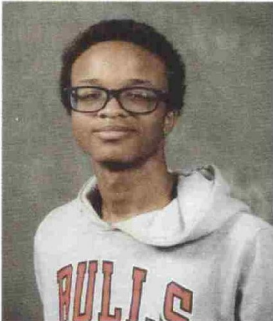
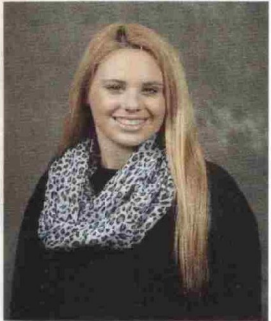


Dontray Estelle

Aisha Faulkner

Josh Fowle

Tyrone Freeman



Alexis Gardner

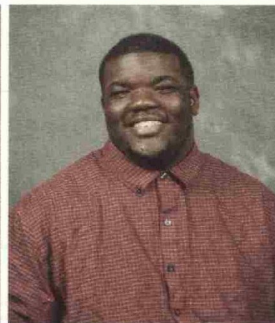
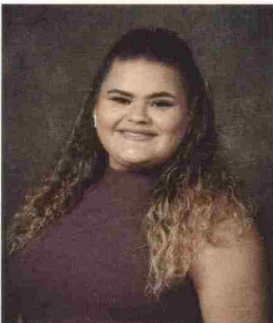
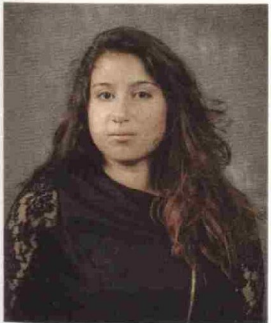
Cheerleading 9, 10 Student Council 9, 10, 11
Class Council 9, 10, 11 (Secretary 11) International
Club 9, 10, 11 (President 11) Booster Club 9, 10
Paranormal Society 11

Delshaun Garner

Chyna Gerloff- Rex

Jenny Gong

FCCLA 10, 11 Drama 10, 11 Art Club 9 International
Club 9



Emily Gonzales

Marching Band 9, 10, 11, 12 Pep Band 9, 10, 11
Poetry Club 10, 11, 12 FCCLA 12 Best Buddies 12
Drama 10, 11, 12 Art Club 11 Book Club 12

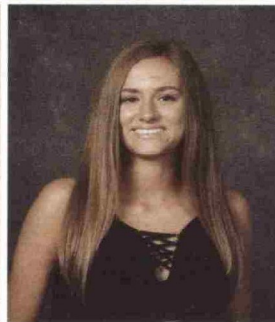
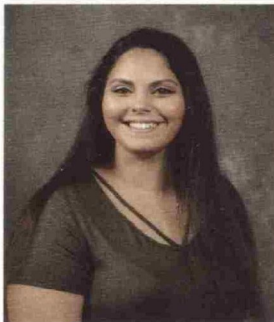
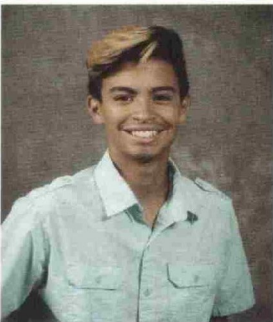
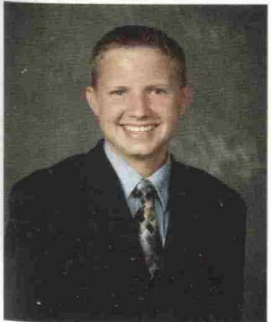
Alexis Gonzalez

National Honors Society 12 Class Council 9,
10, 11, 12 Student Council 12 FCCLA 10, 11, 12
International Club 10, 11 Art Club 11, 12 Paranormal
Society 11, 12

Gardenia Gonzalez

Soccer 10, 11, 12 Track 9, 10, 11, 12 Paranormal
Society 12 Drama 11 Choir 9, 10

Cameron Gordon



Carson Grin

Cristian Haddock

Natalie Halley

Yearbook 10, 11, 12 Cheerleading 9, 10, 11, 12
(Captain 12) Booster Club 9, 10, 11 FCCLA 9, 10
Drama 10, 12 International Club 10, 11, 12 Best
Buddies 12 Paranormal Society 11, 12 Class Council
9, 10, 11, 12

Breanna Hamilton

Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12

Favorite memory



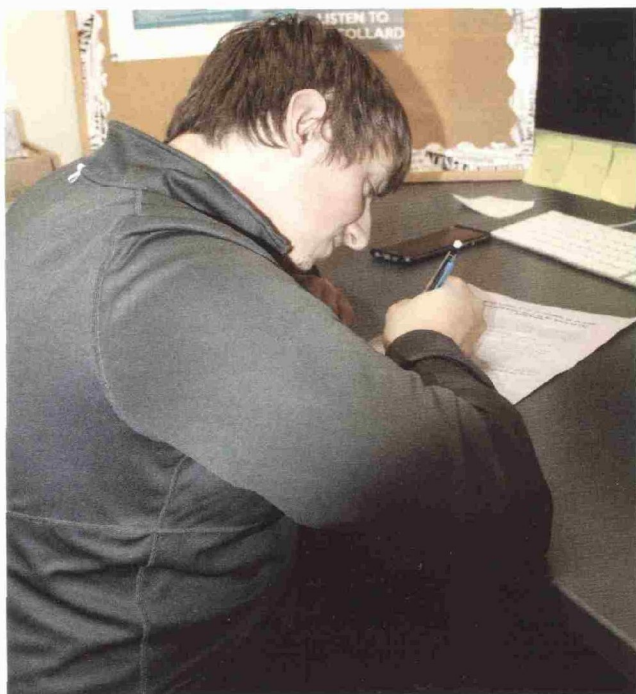
Tyler Hansen, 12

"My favorite memory in high school was my first wrestling match because I got to meet one of my really good friends, Keith. We won the match and it was really exciting to compete on the floor with my teammates for the first time and wrestling is something I'm going to miss a lot."

"My favorite memory of high school was when the football team beat Hobart last year and we all charged the field after the game. I'm going to miss being in the student section with all my best friends."



Jenny Chur, 12



Filling out his activity sheet for the yearbook, senior Hunter Conaghan said, "I've done a lot of activities at GHS, and I'll enjoy looking back on what I did in high school 20 years from now. I'll get a laugh out of seeing the pictures I'm in as well 20 years from now."

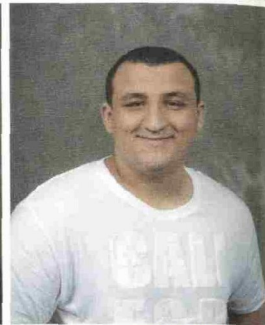
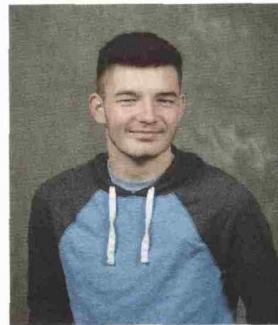
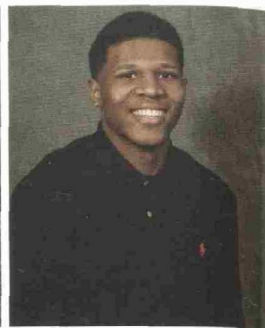
Waiting to donate blood at the blood drive in the main gym, seniors Emily Pawlicki and Hollie Witvoet crack some jokes. "We were just waiting to donate blood and I made up a funny joke, and we started cracking up for a good five minutes. It was a great way to pass the time," said Pawlicki.



Gabriella Hamm

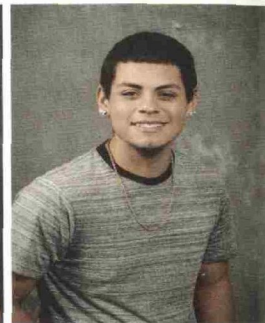
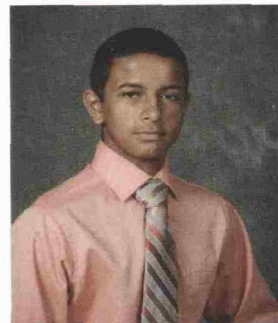
Booster Club 9, 10, 11, 12 Basketball Manager 10, 12 FCCLA 11, 12 Best Buddies 11 Choir 9, 10, 11, 12 Class Council 9, 10, 11, 12 (Secretary 12) Paranormal Society 11, 12

Cornell Hampton



Tyler Hansen

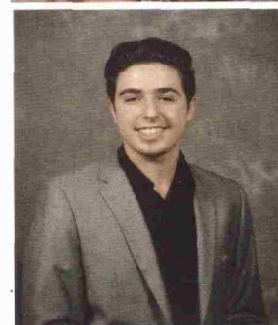
Sammi Hasan



Keith Hernandez

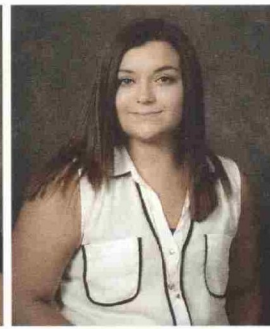
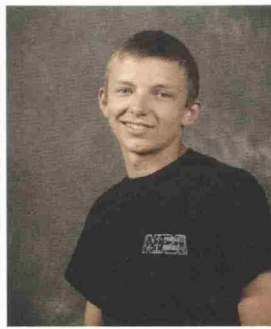
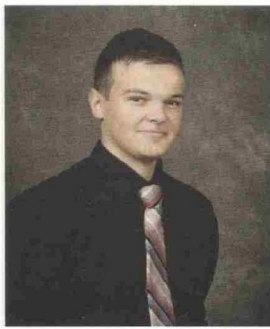
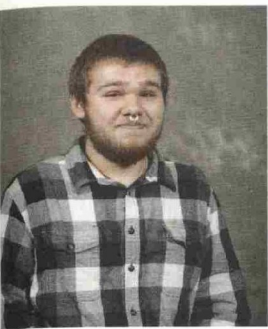
Wrestling 9, 10, 11, 12 Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 Golf 9, 10, 11, 12 National Honor Society 11, 12 Class Council 9, 10, 11, 12 Drama 11, 12

Julien Herrera

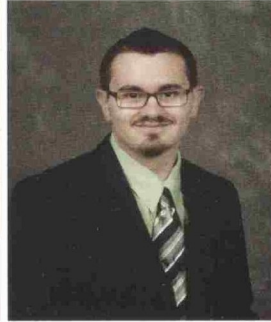


Zac Hilgeman

Diana Huerta



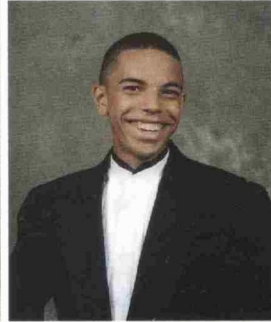
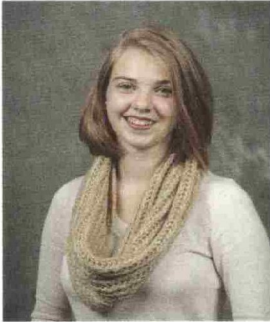
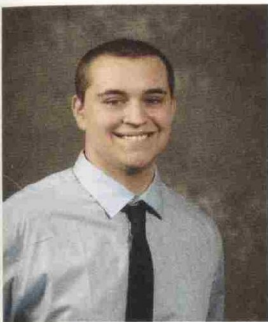
Allen Huff
Jake Janik
Chase Janowski
Lilly Jeffers



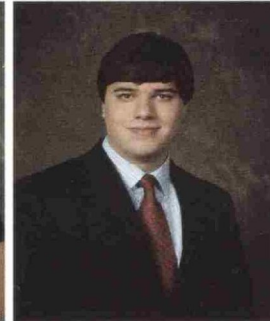
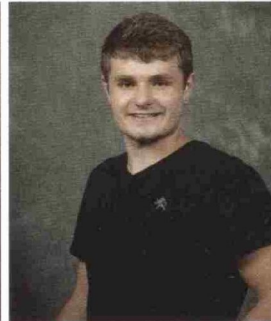
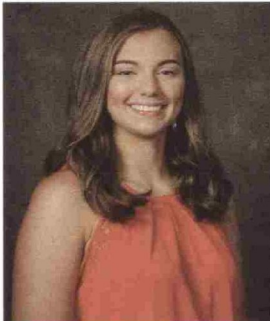
Dana Jelenski
 Class President 9, 10, 11, 12 Homecoming Queen
 12 Turnabout Princess 10 National Honor Society
 11, 12 (Secretary 12) FCCLA 9, 10, 11, 12 (President
 12) International Club 9, 10, 11, 12 Dancing with
 the Panthers 11, 12 (Vice President 12) DECA 11, 12
 Paranormal Society 11, 12 Pantherettes 9, 10 Student
 Council 9, 10, 11, 12 Best Buddies 9, 10 Social
 Studies Super Bowl 12 Drama 10, 11, 12

Alexis Johnson
 International Club 10 Drama 9, 10, 11 Powderpuff
 11

Ethan Jones
Michelle Jones

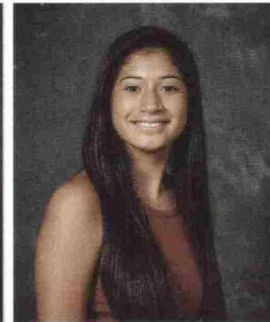
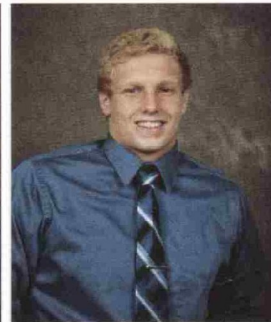
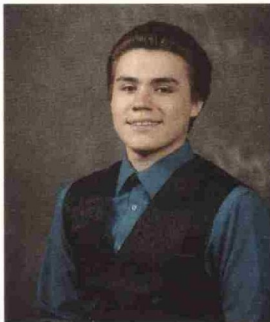
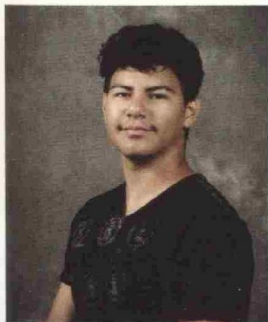


Colton Jursic
Corynn Kealey
Zachary Keil
Adam Kent



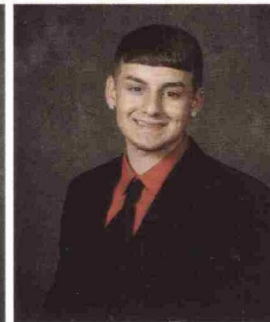
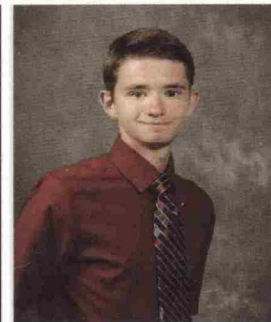
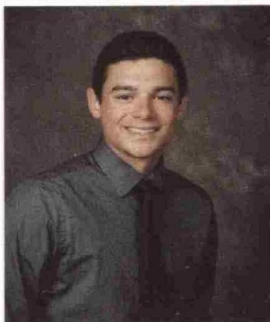
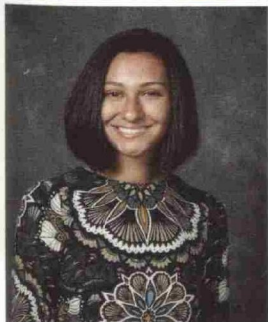
Allison Klingensmith
Rachel Kruhaj
 Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 11, 12) Basketball 9,
 10, 12 (Captain 10) National Honor Society 11, 12
 Academic Super Bowl 12 Best Buddies 11 Turnabout
 Court 10 Homecoming Court 12 Class Council 9,
 10, 11, 12

Kyle Labicki
Jonathan Lanfear



Carlos Lopez
 Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12
Elias Lopez
Trevor Losiniecki
 Football 9, 10, 12 Baseball 9, 10, 12 Basketball 9
 DECA 11, 12

Megan Madrigal
 Volleyball 9, 10, 11, 12 National Honor Society 11,
 12 Track 12 Paranormal Society 11, 12 International
 Club 10, 11



Isabella Maglish
 Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 11, 12) Student
 Council 9, 10, 11, 12 (President 12) National Honor
 Society 11, 12 (Vice President 12) FCCLA 9, 10, 11,
 12 Dancing with the Panthers 11, 12 (Co-chair 11
 Chair 12) Art Club 12 Paranormal Society 12 Class
 Council 12 Track 12

Joseph Martoccio
 Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12 Football 9, 10, 11, 12
 Basketball 9

Andrew Masters
 Soccer 10, 11, 12 Band 9

Collin McCampbell

Senioritis



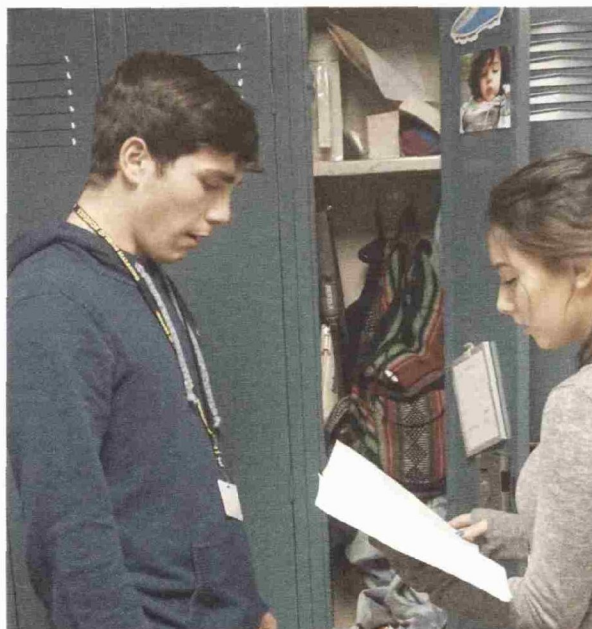
Maxine Carroll, 12

"Senioritis' is ridiculous. It started for me at the beginning of second semester. I am just ready to graduate and be done at this point because I could care less."

"I always had 'Senioritis,' it has just gotten worse as high school progressed. I have began to not do my homework as much. Also, I've started studying less."



Carlos Lopez, 12



Stopping at each others locker before fifth hour, senior Daniel Escorza and Melanie Vera talk about soccer and sports. "We have been friends since seventh grade. We always go to our lockers together before Ms. Anderson's class," said Escorza.

Matthew McGivney

Matthew McInerney

Student Council 9, 10, 11, 12 Class Council 9, 10, 11, 12 (Vice President 12) Soccer 10, 11, 12 (Captain 12) DECA 11, 12 (Vice President 11, 12) National Honor Society 11, 12 Basketball 9, 10 FCCLA 11, 12 Football 9 International Club 9, 10

Dara Meece

Band 9, 10, 11, 12 Cross Country 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 11, 12) National Honors Society 11, 12 Drama 9, 10, 12 English Super Bowl 9, 11, 12 International Club 9, 10, 11

Cassandra Metz

Renee Mierzwa

Pantherettes 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 11, 12) Softball 9, 10 Booster Club 9, 10, 11, 12 Paranormal Society 12 Yearbook 10 Prom Court 11

Joshua Miller

Football 9, 10, 11, 12 (Captain 11, 12) Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12 NHS 11, 12 Student Council 9, 10, 11, 12 Turnabout Court Homecoming Court

Kiara Miller

Volleyball manager 11, 12 Football manager 12 Drama costume 12 Paranormal Society 11, 12 Boys' Basketball Videographer 12

Megan Miller

Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 Turnabout Court International Club 9, 10, 11 Prom Court Homecoming Court Class Council 9, 10, 11, 12

Monet Mitchell

FCCLA 12 Tennis 12 Choir 9, 12

Noah Mitcheltree

Julian Molina

Christine Morikis

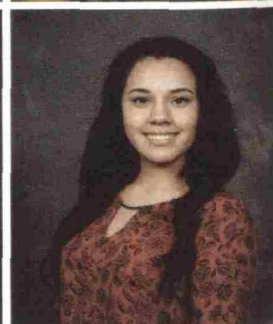
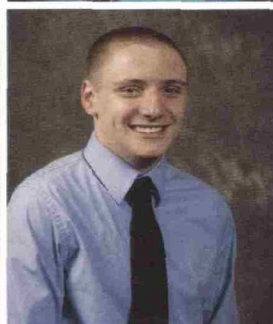
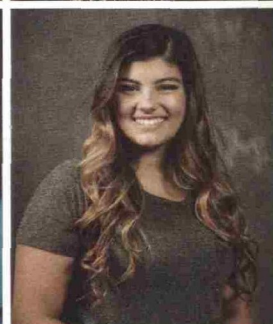
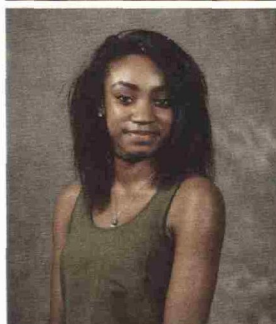
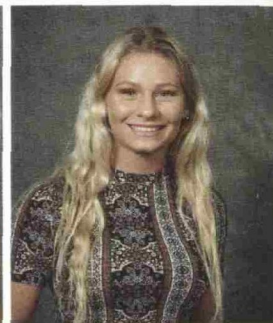
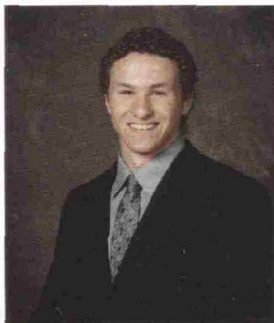
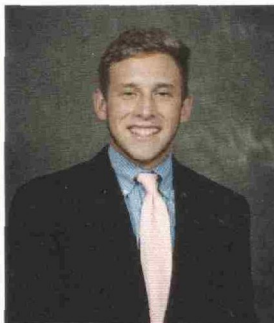
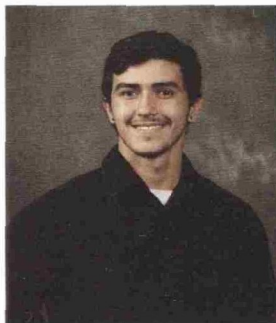
Cheerleading 9, 10, 11, 12 Swimming 11, 12 (Captain 12) Reflector Staff 11, 12 (Photo Editor 12) FCCLA 9, 10, 11, 12, Booster Club 9, 10, 11, 12, Paranormal Society 11, 12 Best Buddies 11, 12

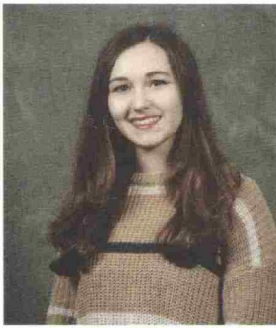
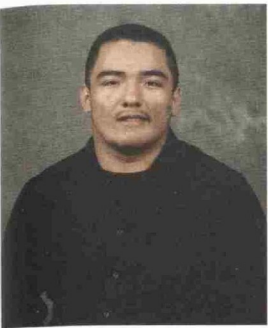
Patrick Moseley

Ariana Muniz

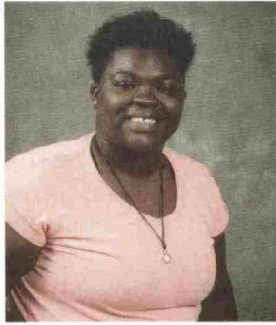
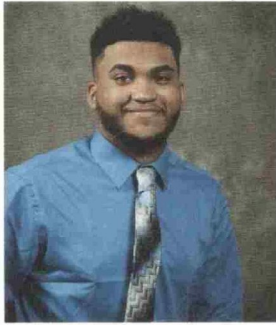
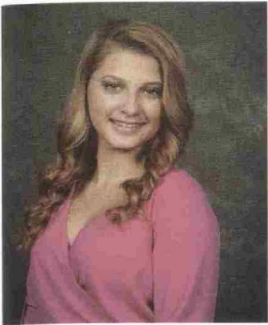
Jason Munsey

Angelica Nava

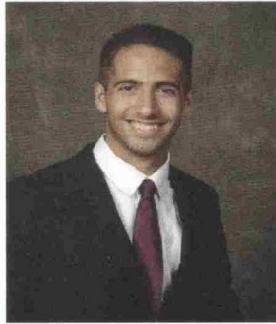




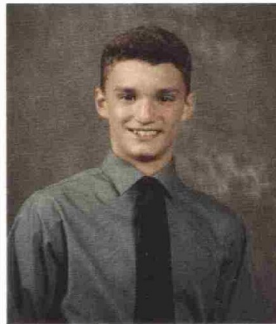
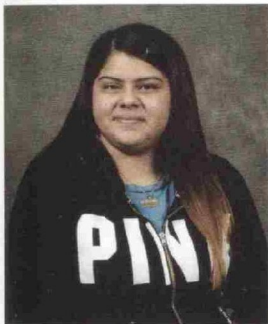
Norberto Nunez
Asia Padrini
Emily Pawlicki



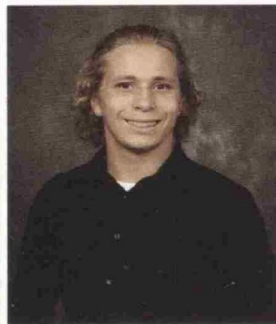
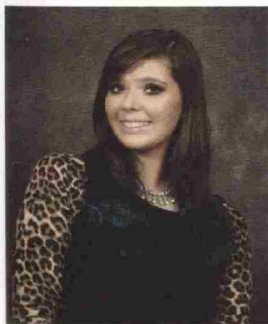
Kaylyn Perez
Corey Perkins
Kayla Piper
Marching band 9, 10, 11, 12 Track 9, 10, 11, 12
[Captain 11, 12] Basketball 10, 12



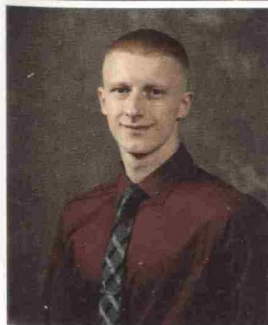
Aliza Price
Kaelyn Price
Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12 National Honor Society 12
Paranormal Society 12
Evan Queen
Swim 11, 12 [Captain 12] Thespians 10, 11, 12 First
Chair 12 All Heart Track 9 Soccer 9



Martha Quiroga
Ashley Ramirez
Band 9, 10, 11, 12 Marching band 9, 10, 11, 12
Jazz band 10, 11, 12 FCCLA 12 Booster club 11, 12
Isaiah Ramirez
Football 11, 12 Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12 Newspaper
11, 12

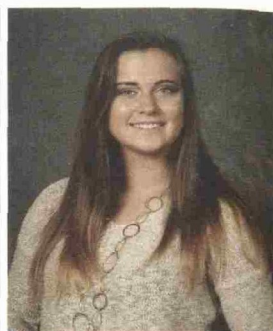
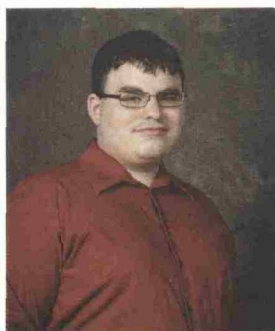
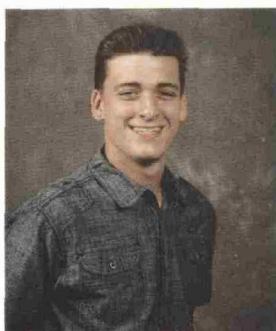
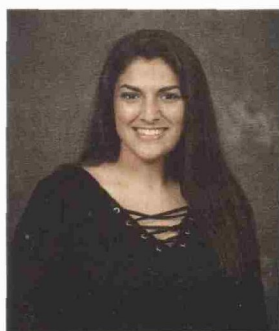


Amanda Ramos
Luke Reid
Jeremiah Reitz

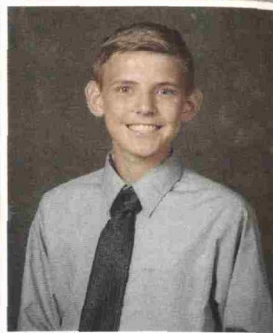
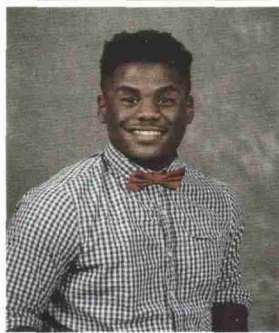


David Renfro

Raquel Renton
Jason Reynolds
Austin Richardson
Brooklyn Richardson
Softball 9, 10, 11, 12 FCCIA 12

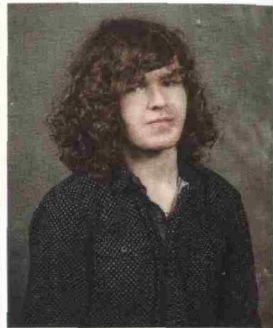
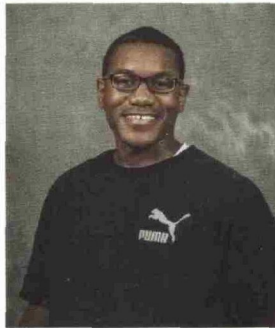


Jorge Robinson
Yesenia Rodriguez
Monica Ross
Volleyball 10, 11, 12 National Honor Society 12
Jacob Rothchild
Soccer 9, 10, 12 International Club 10, 11



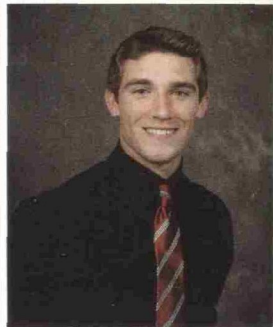
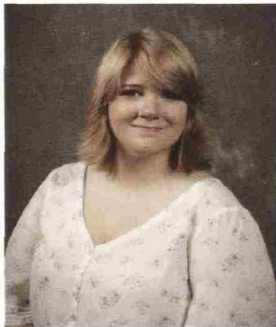
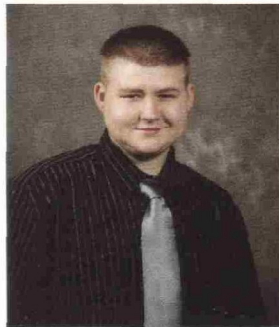
Lilyana Salazar
Yearbook 10, 11, 12 (Co-Editor 12) National Honor Society 11, 12 Student Council 10, 11, 12 Class Council 10, 11, 12 (Treasurer 12) Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 Basketball 10, 11, 12 (Captain 11, 12) Best Buddies 11, 12 Art Club 11, 12 International Club 10, 11 FCCIA 11, 12 Booster Club 12

Mercedes SanMiguel
Malik Sarsi
Jeremy Schaller



Sean Schoenborn
Kayla Schramm
Art Club 9, 10 DECA 11, 12 (Regional placement 11, 12) Choir 9, 10, 11 Drama 10, 11, 12 (Lead actor 10, hair and make-up crew 11, 12) Colorguard 9, 11, 12 Paranormal Society 11, 12

Alyssa Schreiber
Alec Seberger



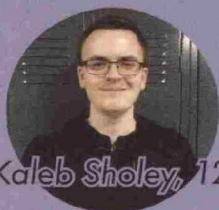
Memories



Mercedes SanMiguel, 12

"During freshman year I auditioned for *The Voice*. I was in the final round of auditions when I sang *The Climb* by Miley Cyrus. Although I didn't get onto the show, it was a great experience."

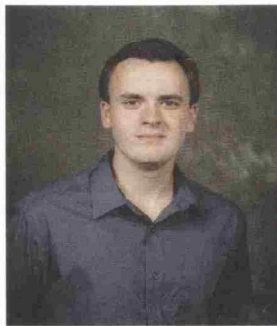
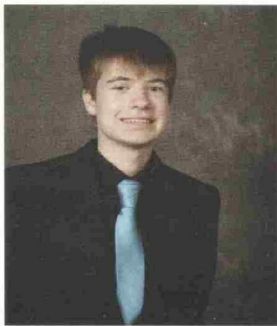
"My favorite memory happened during my junior year. I was on the Blackcats team that won the championship. It was a close game and I hit a big three to put us in the lead. Once we kept rebounding, we knew we had won."



Kaleb Sholey, 12



Sitting in the Willy Wonka hallway, senior Hannah Schultz solves a math problem for Christine Chidichimo's AP Calculus class. "The 'speed dating' activity was awesome, but I couldn't stand up to do my problems. I was one of the few that had to sit down every time," said Schultz.



Trevor Sheffield

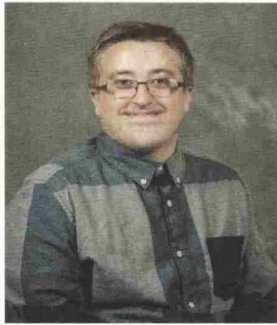
Drama 9, 10, 11, 12 [Thespians 9] Paranormal Society 11, 12 International Club 11 Newspaper 9, 10, 11, 12 [Entertainment editor 10]

Andrew Shelton

Kaleb Sholey

Alyssa Skertich

Band 9, 10, 11, 12 Drama 9, 10, 11, 12 GLS 10, 11, 12 National Honor Society 11, 12 Newspaper 9, 10, 11 Cadet Teaching 12 International Club 11



Samantha Snell

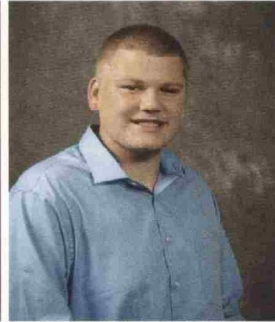
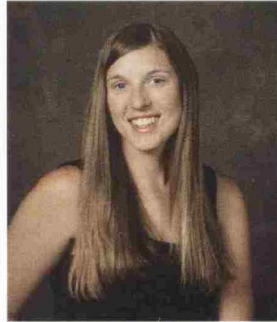
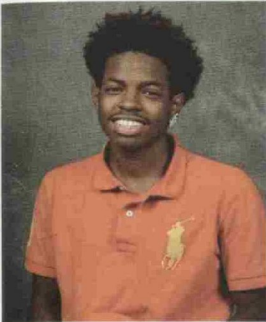
Band 9, 10, 11, 12 Colorguard 10, 11, 12 [Captain 11, 12] Drama 10, 11, 12 Volleyball 9

Joey Soy

Heather Steele

Golf 9, 10, 11, 12 National Honor Society 12 Band 9, 10 Drama 10, 11

Abigail Strauch



JeMauri Taylor

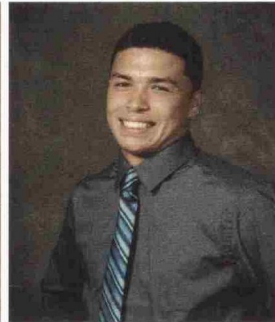
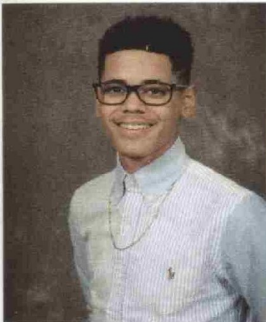
Alvineice Thomas

Swimming & Diving 9, 10 Student Athletic Trainer 9, 10 Band 9, 10, 11, 12 Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12 Mock Trial 10

Kasey Tinsley

Paranormal Society 11, 12 Softball 9, 10, 11, 12 [Captain 12] Choir 9, 10 Volleyball 9

Danny Uylaki



Hector Vega

Ashlee Vera

Football Manager 11, 12 Volleyball 10 Student Council 9, 10 Class Council 9, 10 International Club 10

Melanie Vera

Soccer 9, 10, 11, 12 Tennis 9, 10, 11, 12 [Captain 12] Swimming 10, 11, 12 Choir 9, 10, 11, 12 [Section leader 12] Drama 11, 12

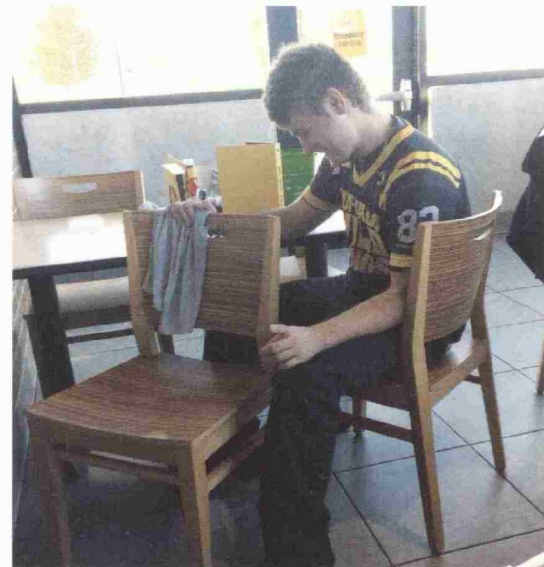
Michael Villalobos

Football 9, 11, 12 DECA 12

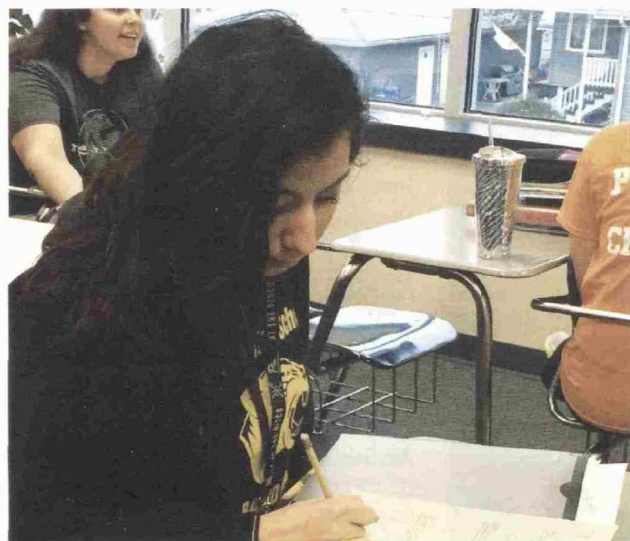
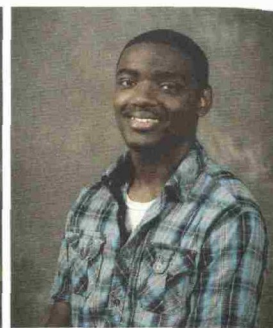
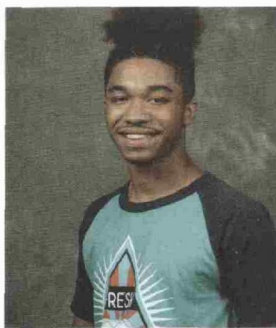
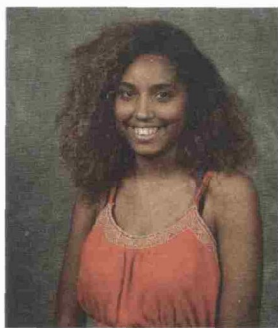


Before the first day of school, senior Dana Jelenski and Noah Mitcheltree talk while eating breakfast with some of their friends to celebrate their last school year together. "The pancakes and sausages tasted really delicious," said Mitcheltree.

While working at Buffalo Wild Wings in Hammond, senior Kyle Labicki wipes down a chair. "I've only been working there for three months. It's the easiest job except for when it's a game night," said Labicki.

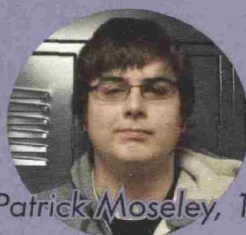


Ciara Villarruel
Dejaulæ Ward Hickman
Brandon Watson
Amere Williams



During a lesson on the levels of consciousness in AP Psychology, senior Emily Gonzales takes notes. "I went into psych because that's what I'd like to major in college. My favorite part is learning how the mind works in terms of how people carry themselves," said Gonzales.

Future goals



Patrick Moseley, 12

"I plan to attend Purdue University West Lafayette to study criminal justice. I've always had a passion for criminal law and pursuing the American Justice program. I'm also interested in any extracurricular clubs and activities on campus pertaining to justice."

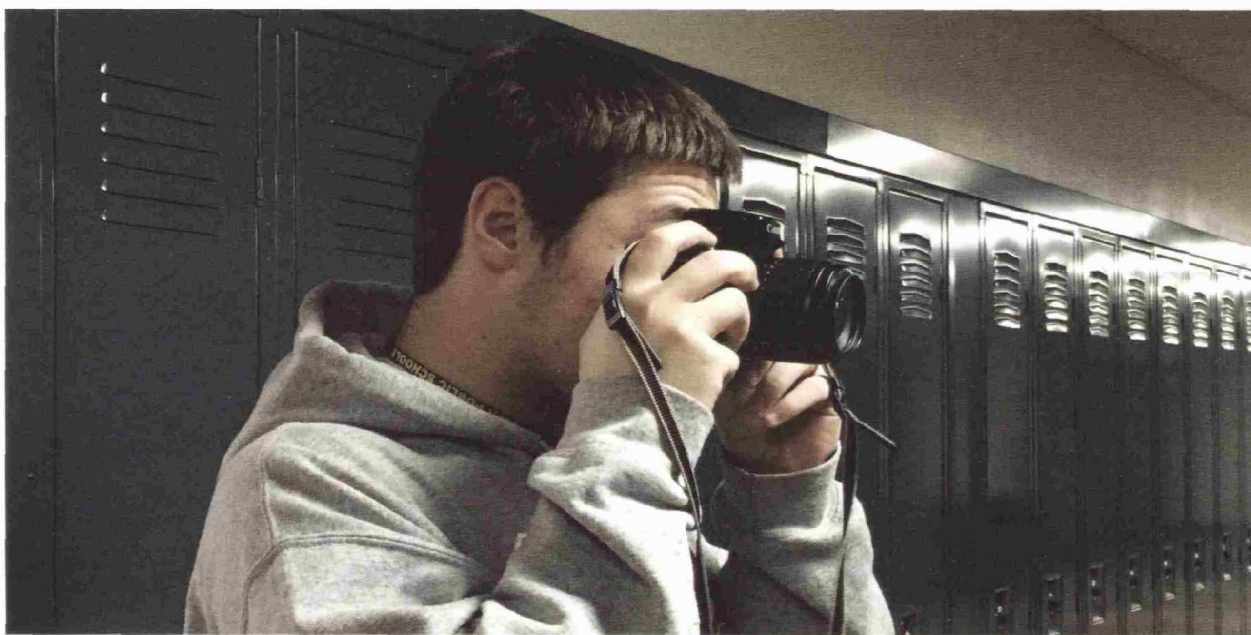
"I am looking at Purdue Northwest, formerly known as Purdue North Central. I'd like to study Veterinary Medicine as well as anything related to animal control. I'd like to minor in psychology, if possible. I have a strong passion for art, so I'd like to be involved in any clubs involving painting or drawing in my free time."

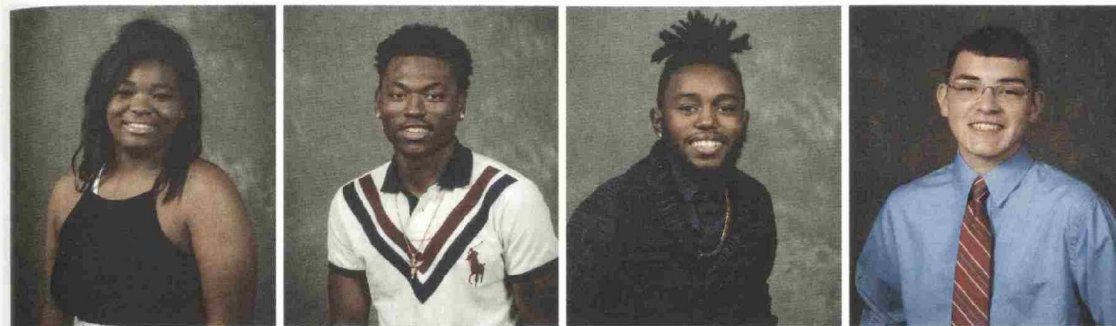


Allison Klingensmith, 12

Practicing for photography, senior Steven Esquivel is taking a photograph of students at their lockers, making a perfect memory. "I chose to snap a picture of the students because it's a natural environment," said Esquivel.

Enjoying a baseball game, a few senior girls took a trip to watch the Pacers play. "My cadet teaching went down to Indy for a teaching convention, and we stopped at the game. I had a great time and wish I could go back," said senior Renee Adams.





Antonia Williams

National Honor Society 11, 12 Booster Club 10, 11, 12 Drama 9, 10, 11, 12 (Technical Manager 11, 12) Student Council 11, 12 Band 9, 10, 11, 12 FCCIA 12

LaDerrick Williams

Johnny Woods

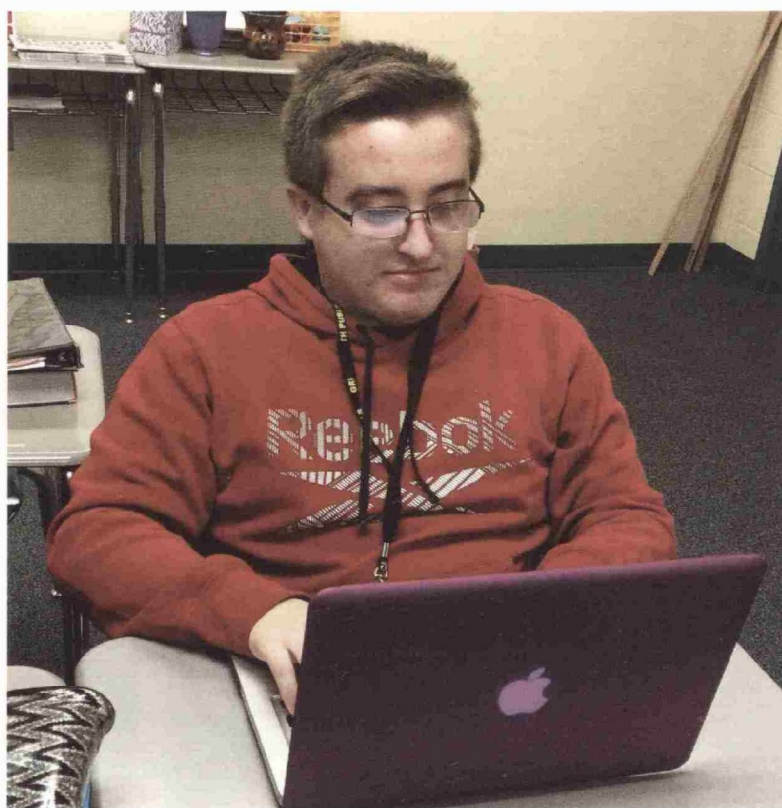
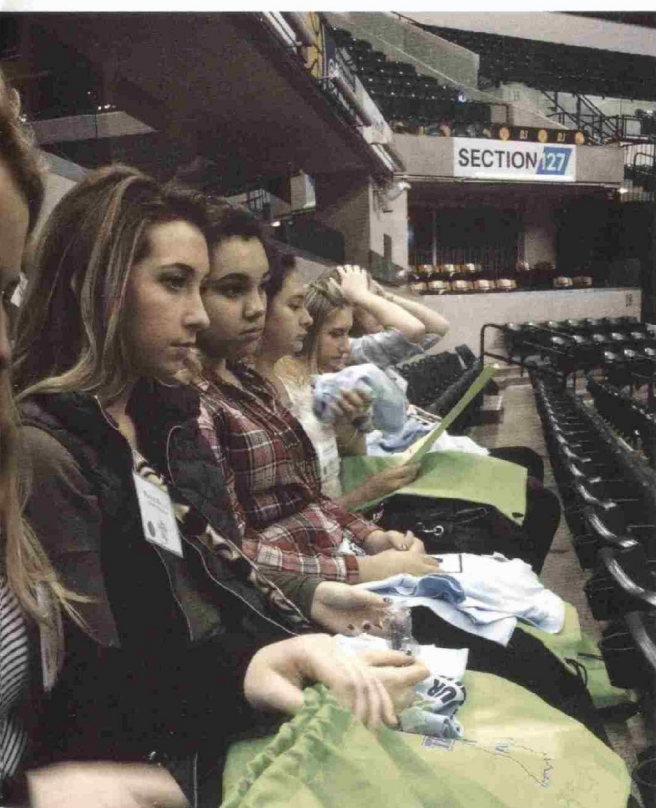
Exavior Zeiler

Marching Band 9, 10, 11, 12 Pep Band 9, 10, 11, 12 Jazz Band 9, 10, 11, 12



In between classes, senior Dara Meece finds time to socialize with friends. "We were discussing after school plans to hang out and study for a big test we had coming up in physics," said Meece.

While working on Math XL, senior Joey Soy is preparing for his test over logarithms. "It helps develop fundamental math skills and prepare students for tests by using study skills and games that I find helpful," said Soy.



gRADUATION

by: Leanna Early & Lilyana Salazar



Jordan Maksimik, 12
& Elias Lopez, 12

Class of 2017

Sponsors: Jenna Candiano
and Michelle Udchitz

Cookout: May
31st

Class Size:
190 students

"We'll
keep one foot in
the past as we take
our next step into
the future"

Banquet Date:
April 19th

Flowers:
White Roses

Graduation Date:
June 4th

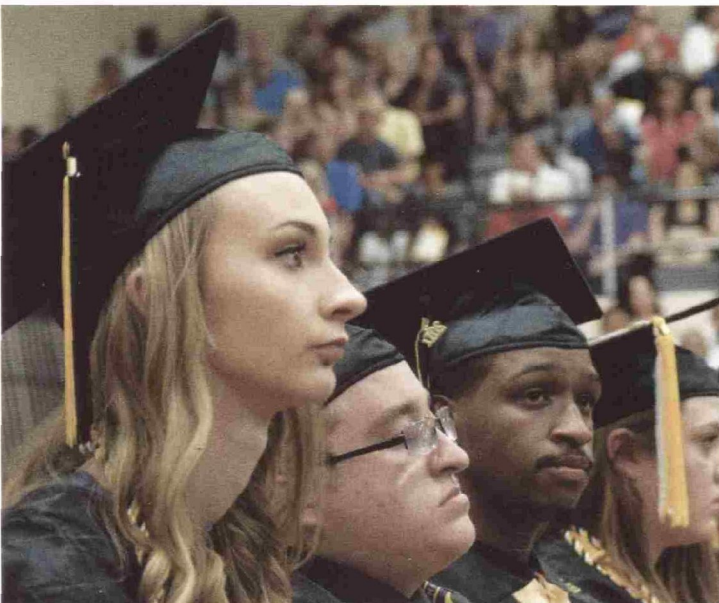
Song: "Unwritten" by
Natasha Bedingfield

Colors: Black and
Gold



With their future ahead of them, seniors Sam Snell, Joey Soy, and Andrew Starnes listen to Principal Orkis's speech. "Orkis' speech really impressed me. I didn't know our class had such high statistics," said Snell.

Catching up with old friends, senior Amber Grubish enjoys the senior cookout. "It was a great time to just be able to hang out with friends and classmates altogether before everyone goes off to college," said Grubish.



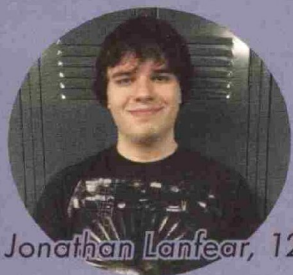


Waiting for their rides, senior Yesenia Rodriguez and Malik Sarsi begin to talk. "For my first/last year at Griffith I really enjoyed it. Malik is one of my friends and it was nice to talk to him after the cookout," said Rodriguez.

Senior graduation survey



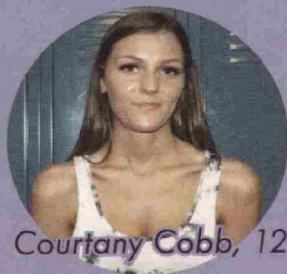
Are you ready for college?



Jonathan Lanfear, 12

"I will be attending Purdue North West for information technology and I will be living at home to save money. I am excited to leave high school and I am ready to move on, but I don't think I'm quit ready to start adulthood just yet. On the other hand, I can't wait to head to college and start a brand new chapter of my life and meet make new friends."

"I will be taking an 18 month cosmetology course at The School of Paul Mitchell, Merrillville Cosmetology. After that, I plan to work full time at a salon. I've always enjoyed doing hair and makeup and I would love to make it my career. I am ready to move on from high school and start my future. I also plan on moving out soon and getting my own apartment."



Courtney Cobb, 12



"Once I got my diploma, I felt so accomplished walking back to my seat," said senior Stevie Esquivel. Immediately after shaking superintendent Pete Morikis's hand, Esquivel firmly holds his diploma.

A TIME TO RAISE FUNDS

by: Curtis Carter & Emily Keck

Many clubs and elective classes rely on ads and fundraising to help fund activities and field trips. This year, the National Honor Society sold Fannie May chocolate bars for one dollar each to pay for the Top Ten Banquet held in April. Each member was required to sell at least three boxes of chocolate. Many staff members, including the head of NHS Cindy Leber and co-sponsor Sarah Cohen, stood in the hallways to help sell boxes of chocolates to students. "I volunteered to help sell some boxes of chocolate between classes because I wanted to help raise more money," said Cohen. NHS members walked around the lunchroom selling the chocolate bars, and sold them at the beginning of classes.

This year, the girls' soccer team sold fan shirts to help pay for new equipment and possibly new jerseys for the upcoming season. Each shirt had the option to be customized with the name and number of a player. The team also did a car wash at the YMCA, two fundraisers at Potbelly's, and a fundraiser at QBBQ. For the car wash, team members had to sell a certain amount of tickets. The first fundraiser at Potbelly's raised \$496 in which twenty-five percent of both fundraisers was donated to the team, and the second fundraiser raised \$300. The fundraisers helped pay for the senior banquet and the year-end banquet. The boys' soccer team also sold fan shirts, held a car wash, and hosted a futsal tournament. The futsal tournament was held on January 18. Together, the two teams held the annual girls vs. boys game in which the money went back to the teams.

In order to help pay for the Homecoming dance, Student Council sold Alice in Wonderland themed t-shirts. Each t-shirt was sold for ten dollars. In addition to the homecoming shirts, Student Council sold smooches for fifty

cents each. Students sent smooches to each other with a personalized message written on them.

The football team held a winter coat drive in which over 60 coats were donated. The fundraiser was held on December 16 at the boys basketball game vs. the Highland Trojans.

In order to afford new poms, uniforms, and choreography, the Pantherettes sold fan shirts and sold boxes of Krispy Kreme donuts at home football games. The Pantherettes also held a car wash, had a care-package system for finals, and held a little girls camp. The Pantherettes and cheerleaders also helped park cars at the Lake County Fair.

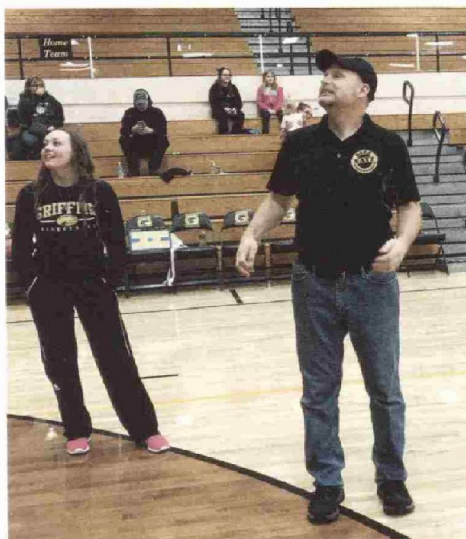
Aside from fundraising, some classes rely on selling ads to local businesses to help pay for products, such as the Reflector. Yearbook advisor Kristina Collard requires each member of the yearbook staff to sell at least one ad per semester. Each ad sold is worth 100 points. The ads help reduce the price of the yearbook cost by paying for a majority of the printing.

This season, the girls' basketball team hosted a pop-a-shot event where the fans had a chance to win a 2-liter of pop by shooting a basket where the difficulty is dependant on age at every home game at half time. The cost to enter the pop-a-shot is one dollar. The team also sold fan shirts for fifteen-dollars or sixteen-dollars depending on how each student customized their shirt. "I like the idea of fan shirts because it shows support for the team, and I like pop-a-shot because it is amusing to watch people try and shoot three-pointers," said freshman Jillian Carroll.

The boys' basketball team sold Krispy Kreme donuts to friends and family to help raise money for the upcoming season.

"I like the idea of fan shirts because it shows support for the team, and I like pop-a-shot because it is amusing to watch people try to shoot three-pointers," said freshman Jillian Carroll.

During halftime at a home JV girls basketball game, senior Rachel Deck watched as Deeze Eatz concession stand owner and operator, Duane Forbes, shoots from the three-point line to win a two-liter of pop.

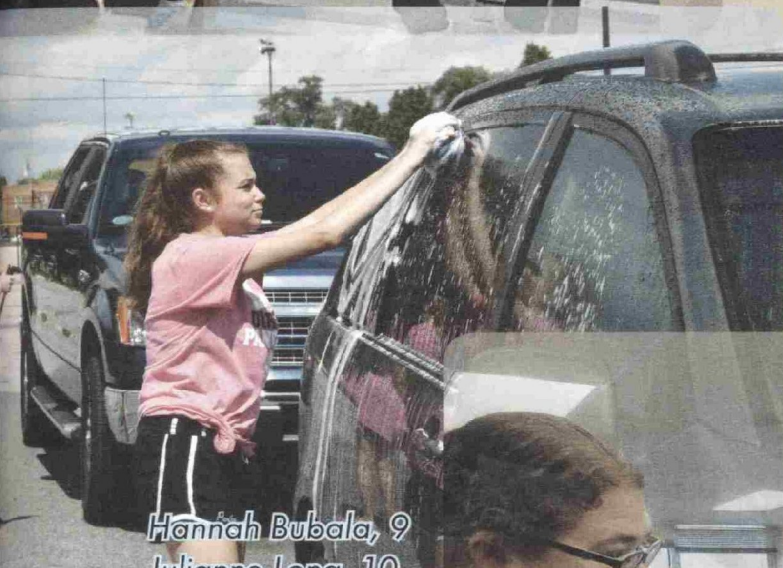




Leslie León-Aguilar, 11



Melanie Vera, 12



Hannah Bubala, 9
Julianne Long, 10

At the annual futsal tournament to raise money for the boys soccer team on January 18th, junior Zachary Fisch attempts to steal the ball from junior, Matthew Alvarez. "It was exciting to be a part of a new tradition at Griffith," said Fisch.



Matthew Thomas, 11
Sarah Cohen, Math



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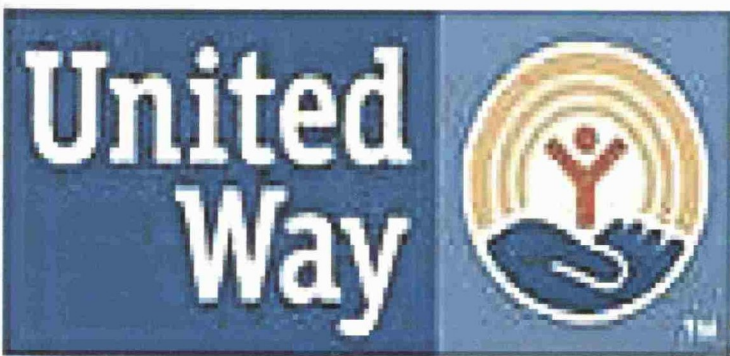
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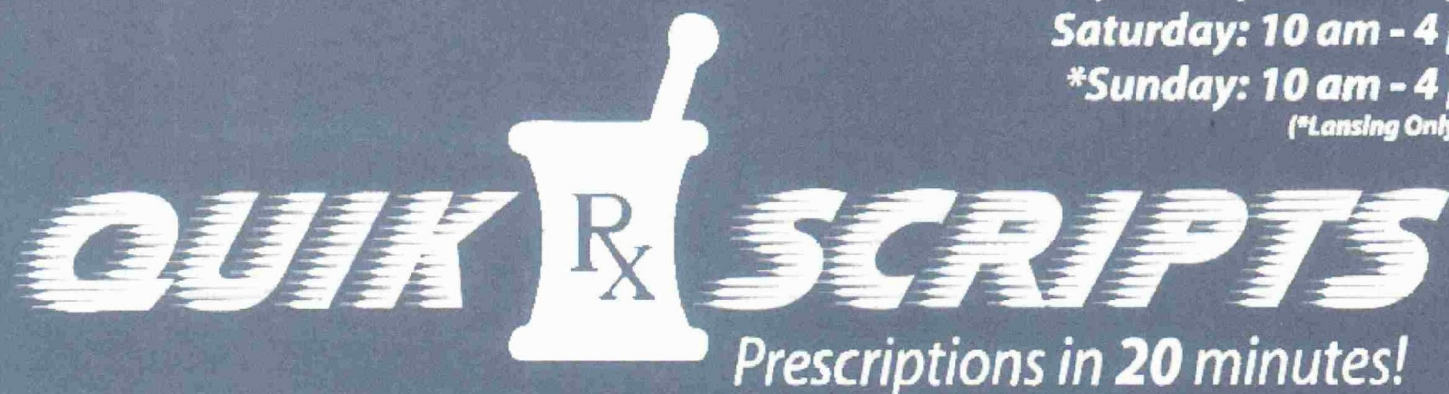
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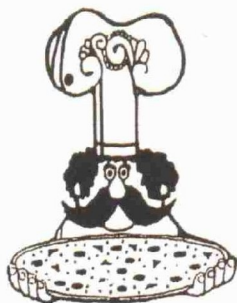
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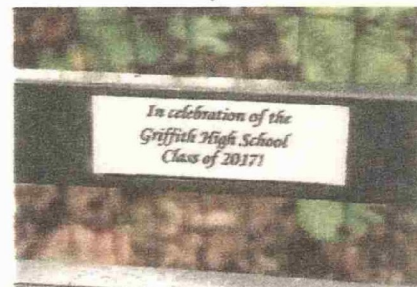
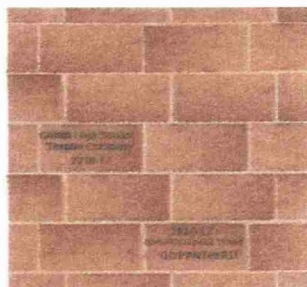
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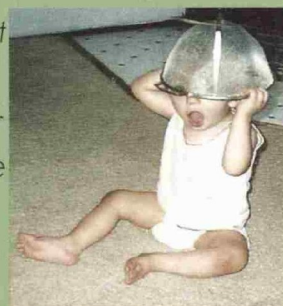
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and man you have become.
We can't wait to see what your
future holds. We know it will be
everything you dream of.
We love you.



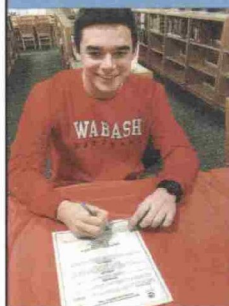
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We are so
proud of you.

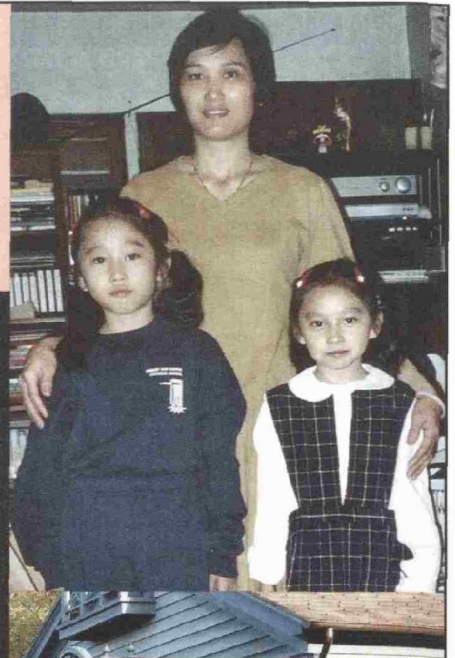
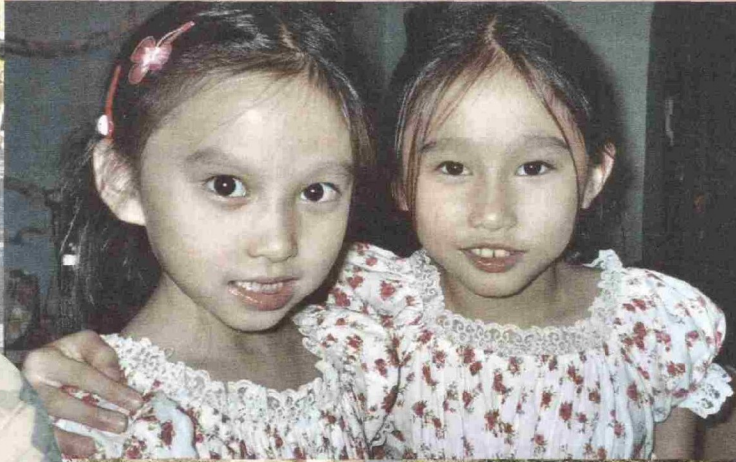


JOEY MARTOCCIO

Joey, we are so proud of
you. A great future awaits.
Congratulations!
Love you, Mom, Dad and
Emmy

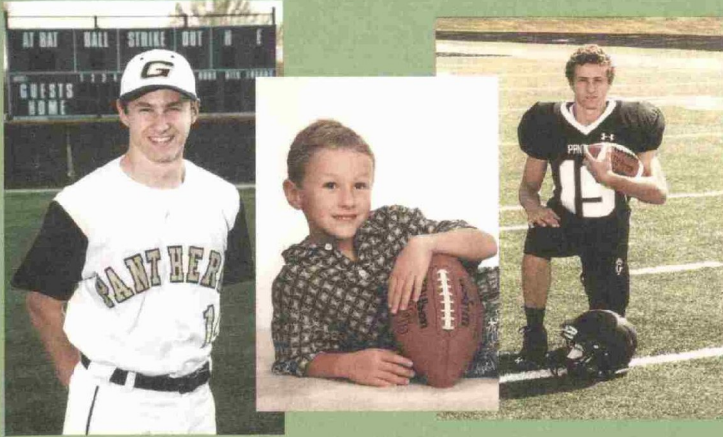


JENNY GONG



So happy to see you start school.
 So happy to see you grow.
 So happy to see you graduate.
 On to college you will go.
 It's time to look into the future.
 It's time to see what you can be.
 It's time to be educated further.
 To become what you've set to achieve.
 Love,
 Dad, Mom, Becky, and Kenny

JOSH MILLER



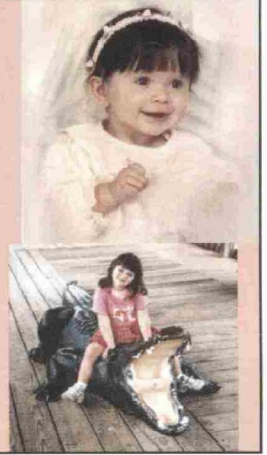
We are so proud of all your academic and athletic accomplishments. We know you will succeed in whatever you do.

Love,
Dad, Mom, MeLissa, and Jason

AMANDA RAMOS

Congratulations to our daughter. Time has gone by so fast. We are so proud of you. You are intelligent, beautiful, kind, and inspirational. You have always gone after your goals, desires, and dreams. You are a wonderful woman and we are proud and honored to call you our daughter.

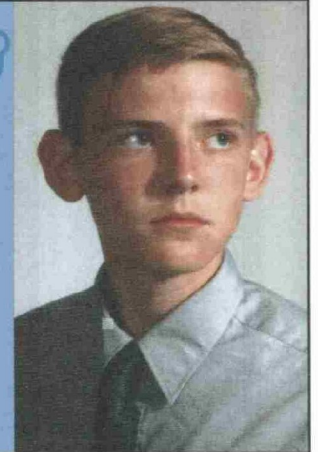
Love,
Dad and Mom



JACOB ROTHCHILD

We are so very proud of you! We never stopped believing in you, and you never stopped believing in yourself! Through your hard work and perseverance, you were able to accomplish all of your goals that you set out to achieve. Good luck in college and in your future endeavors.

Love,
Mom and Dad

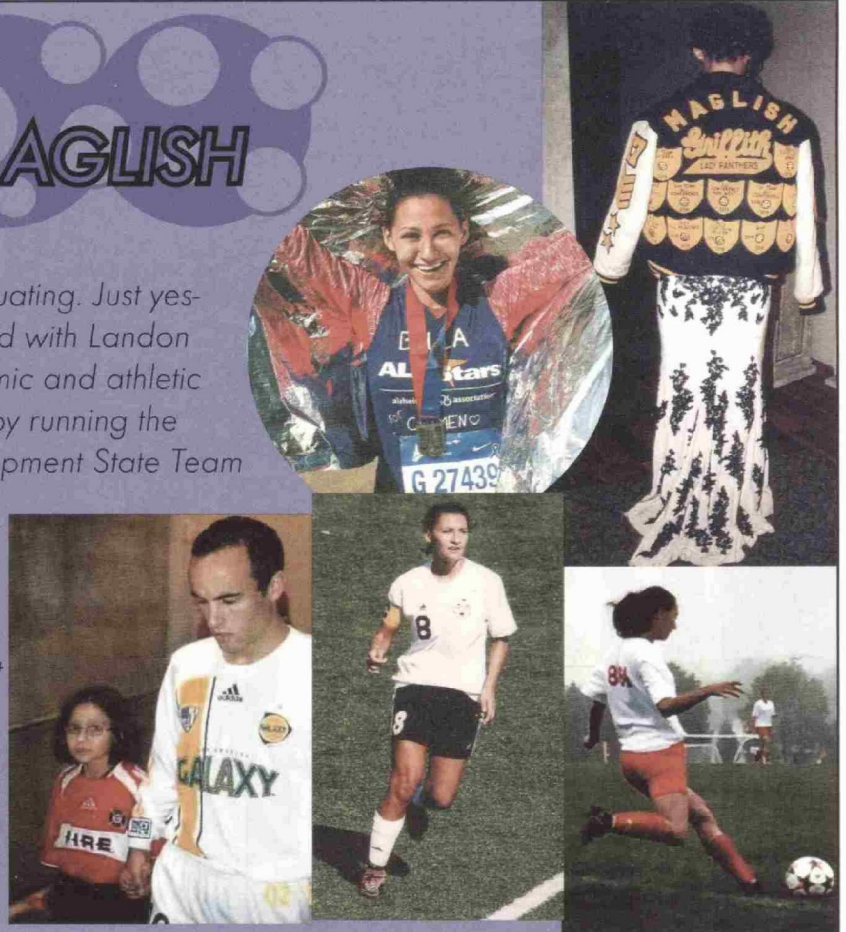


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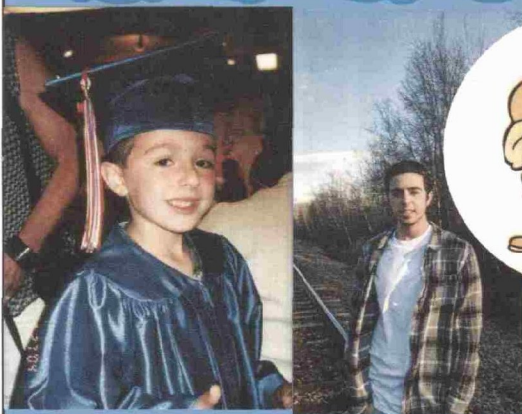
Bella,

Where do we begin, we can't believe you're graduating. Just yesterday you were walking onto the Chicago Fire field with Landon Donovan. You have AMAZED us with your academic and athletic achievements! Fundraising for Alzheimer research by running the Chicago Marathon, becoming an Olympic Development State Team Soccer player 2012-2016, receiving the Academic All State Soccer Award 2015 & 2016 & making the GHS "Hall of Fame." We are excited to continue with you on your journey as you fulfill your "Bucket List." CONGRATULATIONS on your direct admittance into the Nursing Program at Purdue..... It's time to "BOILER UP!"

All Our Love
Mom, Dad, & Brittany



ZAC HILGEMAN



"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future," Jeremiah 29:11
 Congratulations Zac! We are so proud of the young man you have become. Wishing you the best as you head to Purdue! We love you!

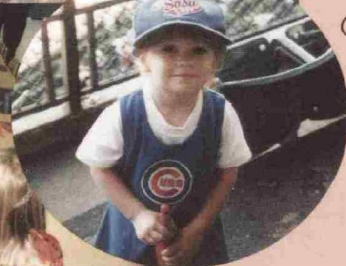
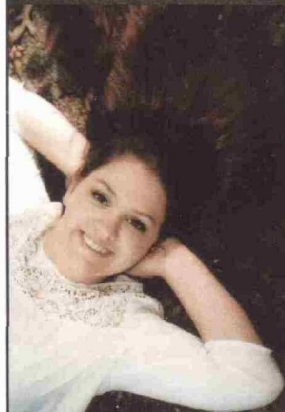
Love,
 Dad, Mom, and Jake

NOAH MITCHELTREE

We are so very proud of you!
 Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.
 We love you,
 Mom, Dad, Emily, and Peyton



HEATHER STEELE



Heather,
 We can't begin to tell you how proud we are of you! We've watched you grow and achieve many things over the years. Your drive and determination will take you far in life. Follow your dreams and reach for the stars!

We Love You,
 Mom and Dad

ABBIE DOBOSZ

You came and went in the blink of an eye.

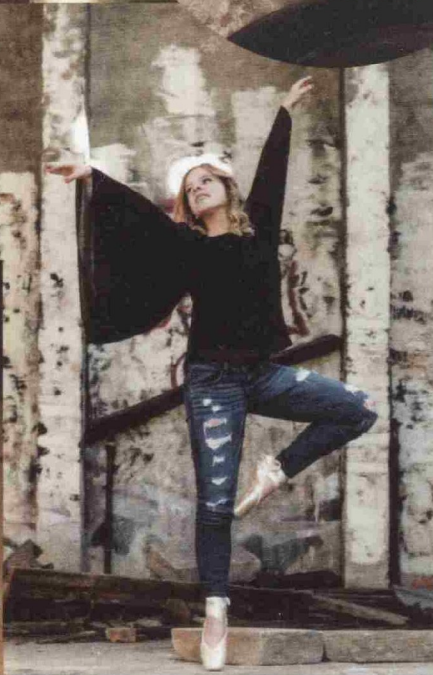
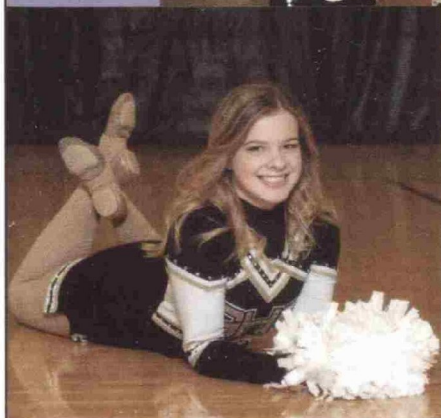
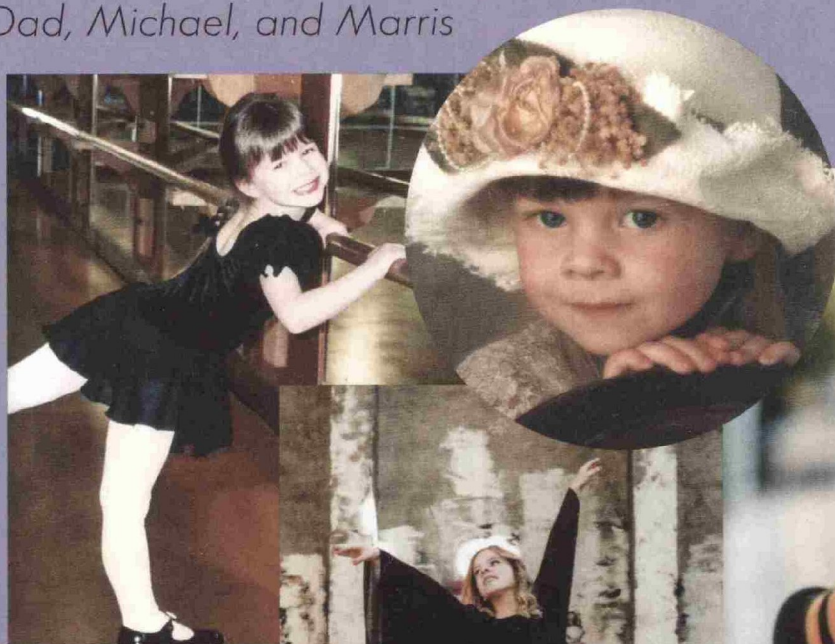
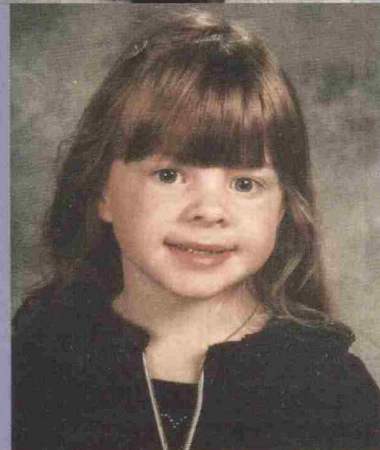
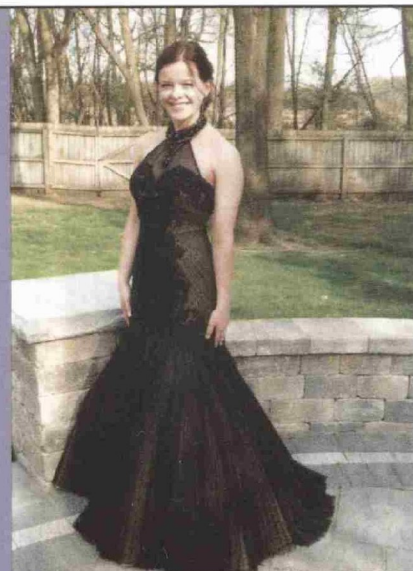
Fast forward. Scroll down. Time-lapse.

From Barbies to the Bachelor; Junie B. Jones to Katniss Everdeen; Happy Meals to Chipotle; One plus one to inverse functions; Arabesque to Hip Hop; Tutus to Sherri Hill.

Can we please press pause?

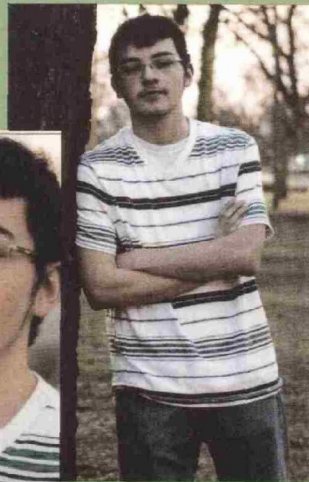
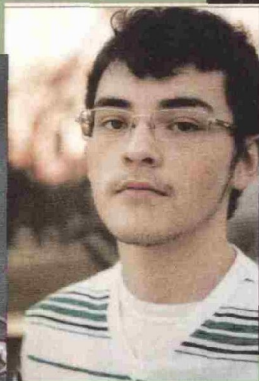
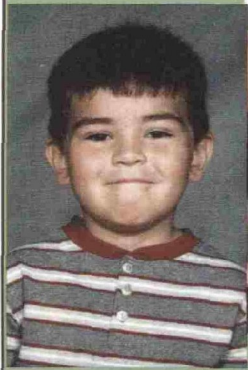
Abbey, Mom and Dad will never forget where you came from and eagerly anticipate where you will go.

*All of our love,
Mom, Dad, Michael, and Marris*



EXAVIOR ZEILER

Son, we're so proud of the person you've become and all that you've accomplished. We can't wait to see what the future holds. Remember no matter what you choose, we'll always support you.
Mom and Dad



LEANNA EARLY

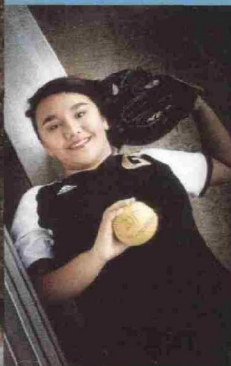


Congrats Leanna Cat! So proud of you!
Love,
Mom, Lee, Samm, and Jill

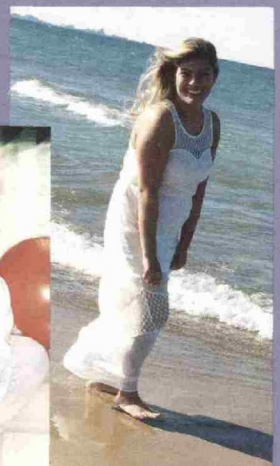
TATYANA CIMA DE VILLA

Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her," Luke 1:45

Love,
Mom and Dad



CHRISTINE MORIKIS

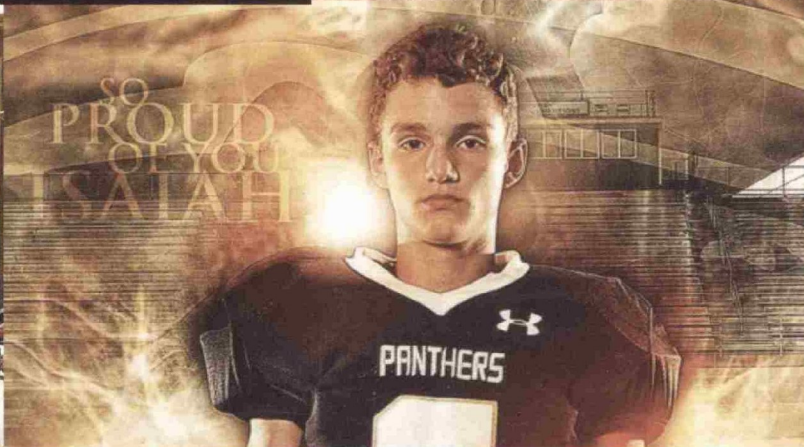
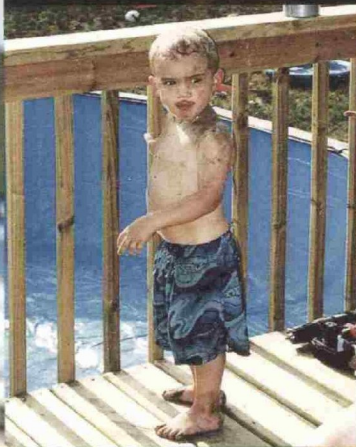
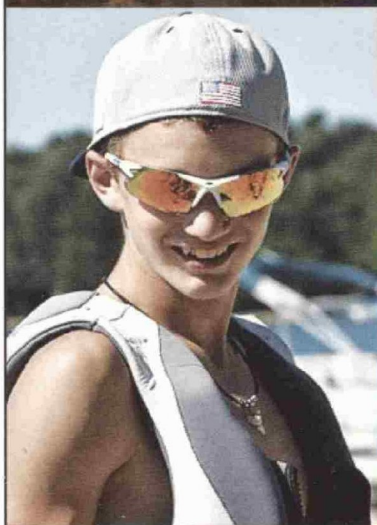
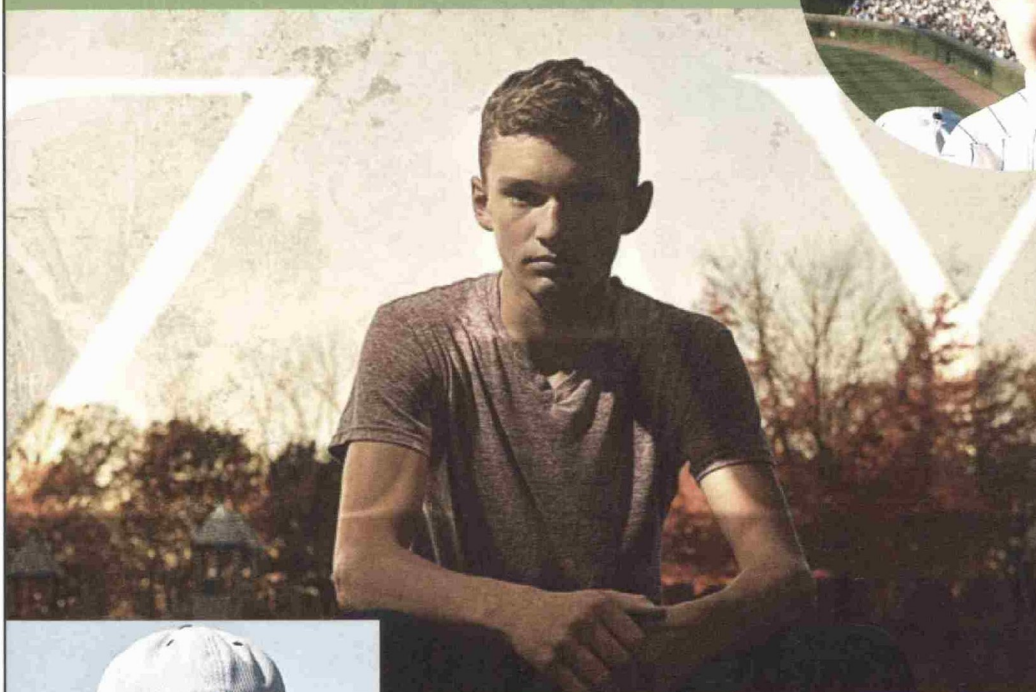
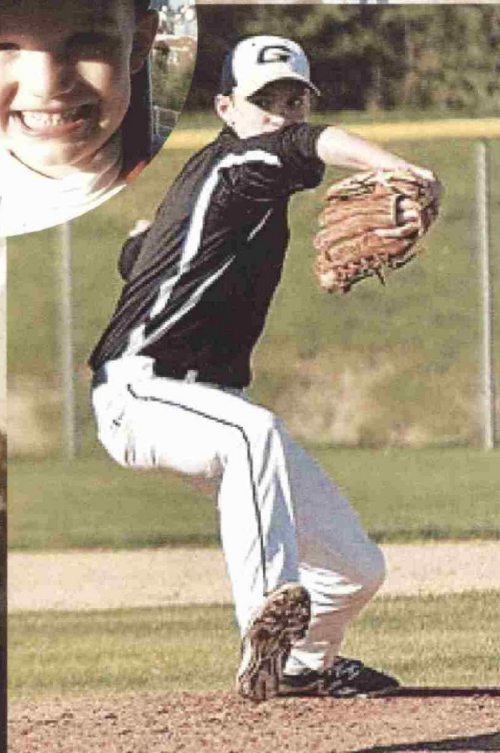
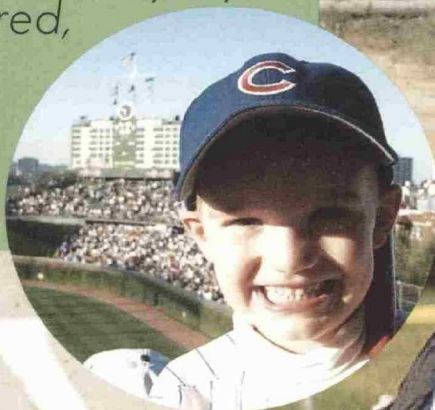
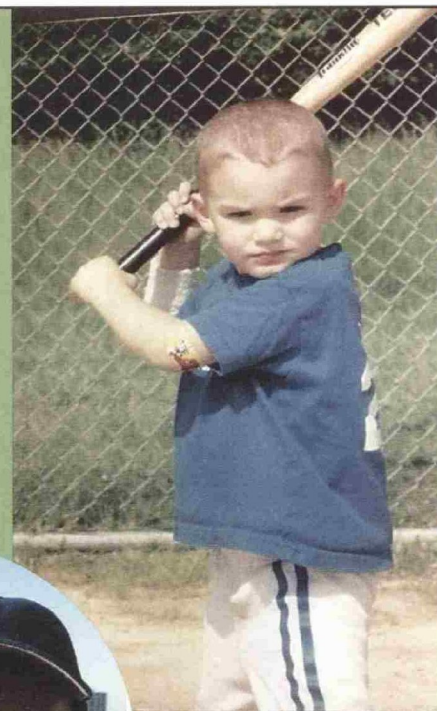


Don't worry about a thing, because every little thing will be alright.
Love,
the guys

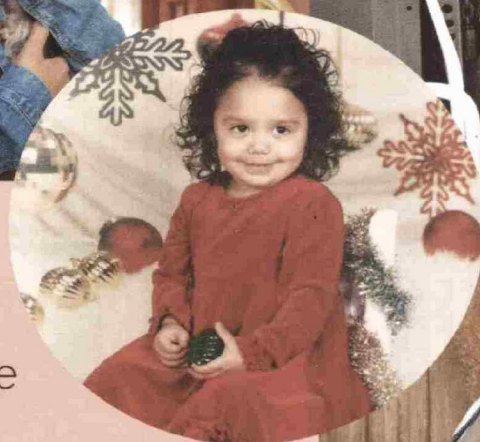
ISAIAH RAMIREZ

"We are so proud of you Isaiah! We Love You Bud!!!

Love, Dad, Mom, Hannah, Noah, Eden & Levi.
Peepa, Grampa & Gramma, Papa & Nana, Aunt
Lisa & Uncle Skip, Uncle Chris & Aunt Angie, Aunt
Barb & Uncle Bart, Uncle Stephen & Aunt Wyndy,
Uncle David, Uncle Johnny, Uncle Jared,
Uncle Joe & Auntie Lindsey, Brandi,
Ross, Rusty, Zak, Elijah, Seth, Riley,
Carley & Jace.

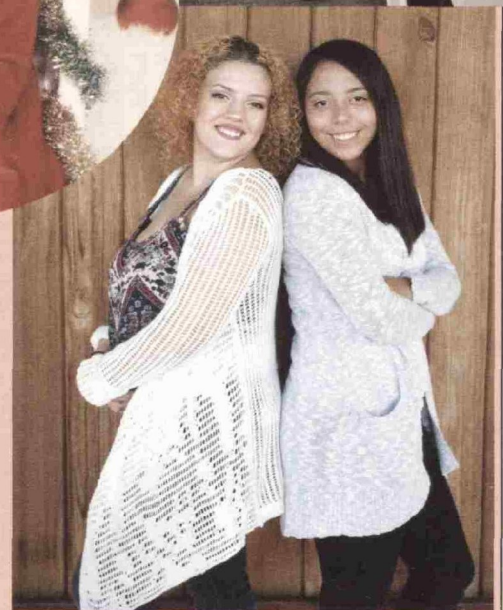


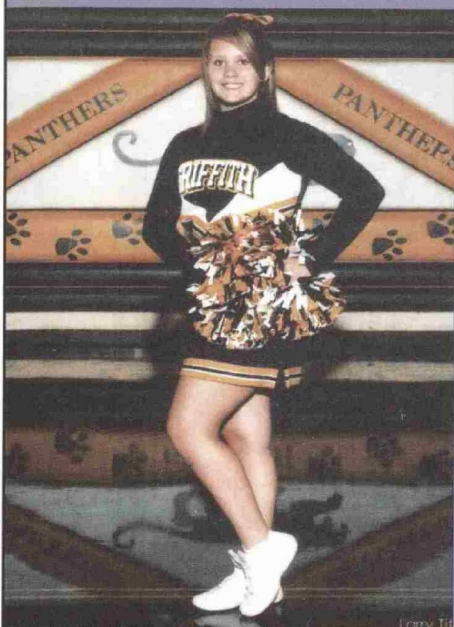
LILYANA SALAZAR



It seems like yesterday you were born into our lives. We are very proud of the young lady you have become. We can't wait to stand by you and watch you accomplish your dreams. Congratulations on all of your hard work. We love you, daughter.

Love,
Mother, Father, Midget, Jeanette, Nanny,
and Papa

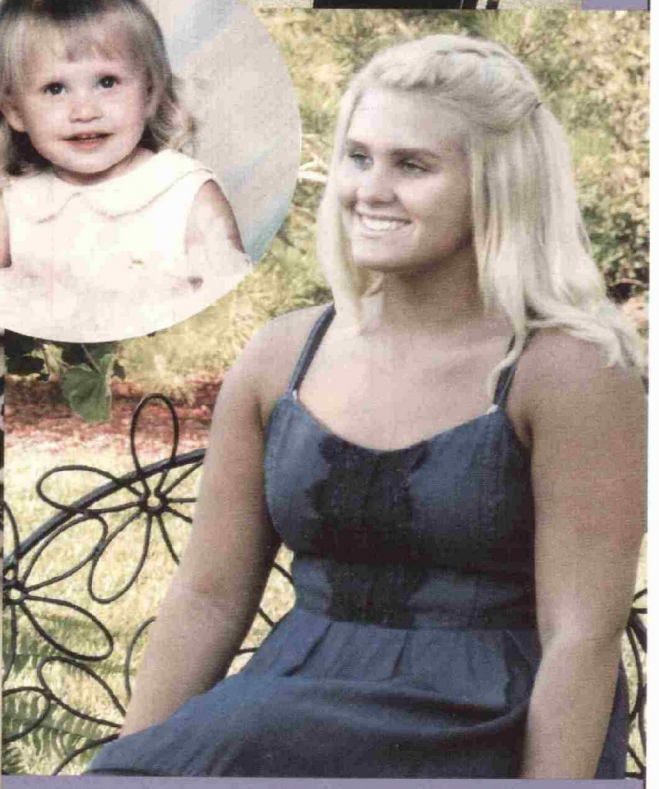
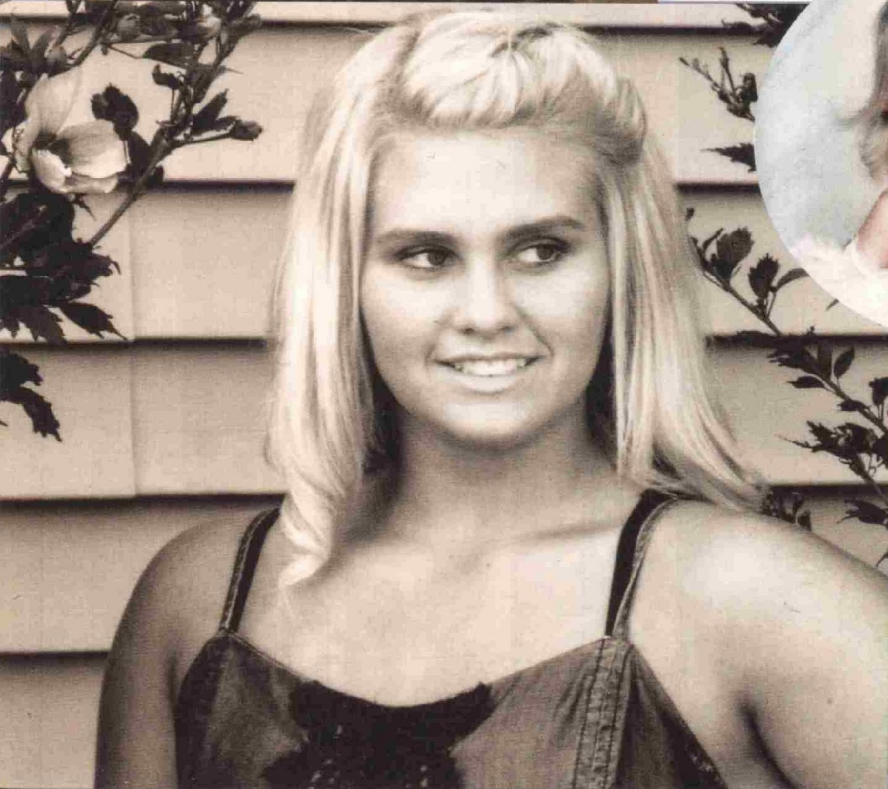


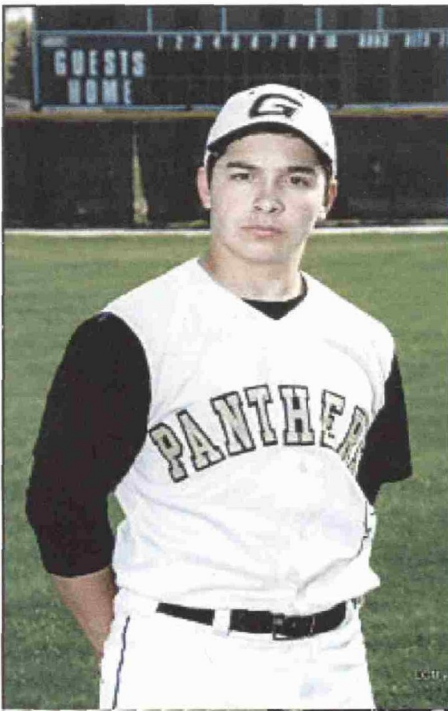


SABRINA DODSON

Congratulations on your high school graduation! We couldn't be more proud of you! As you close this chapter in your life and begin the next, we wish you the very best. Continue to be brave and strong because that is what we love about you. Remember, "sometimes when you fall you fly".

Love,
Dad, Mom, Sarah, and your grandparents





DENNY COLOMES

Son, they say, "Everything you're going through right now is preparing you for something more."
Find your passion.

Find what you love to do and pursue it with all your heart. You always have.

Take risks. Never regret anything that has made you smile.

Take leaps of faith. You'll grow wings... We've all seen you fly!

At times, you might fail. Get up. Dust yourself off, and move forward.

And always remember, when it rains, look for rainbows.

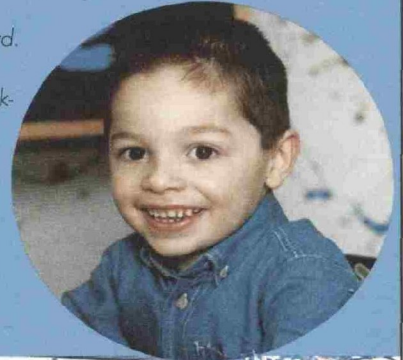
When it's dark, look for stars... your Dad is and always will be, looking down and smiling.

He was so very proud of you!

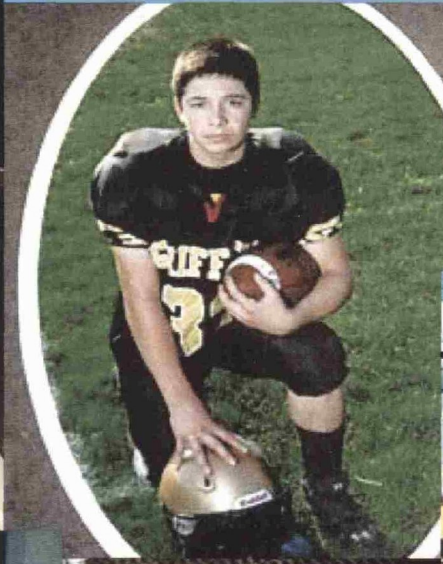
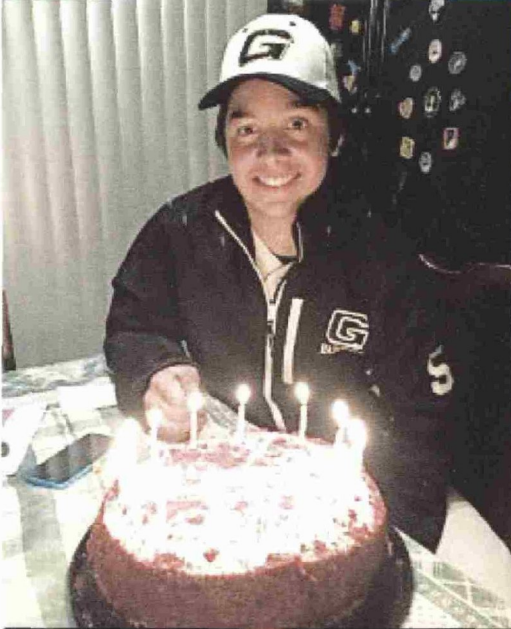
May God, along with your Guardian Angel, guide you and protect you always.

God bless you, Dennis.

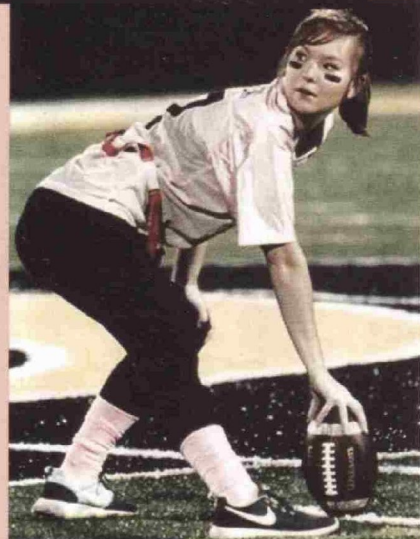
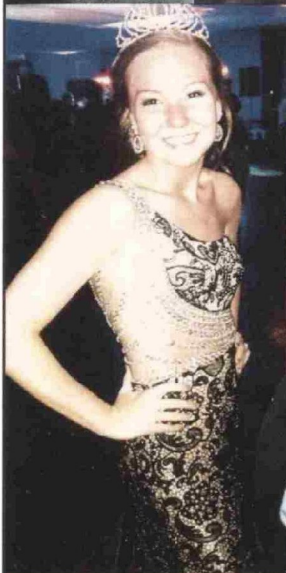
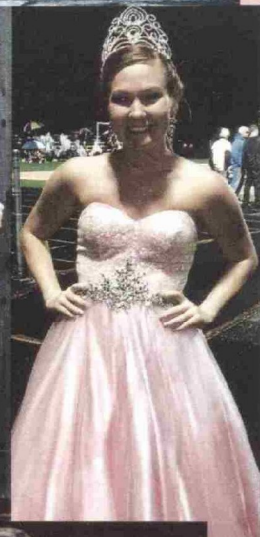
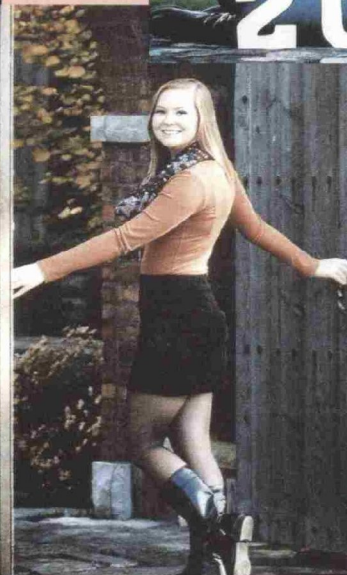
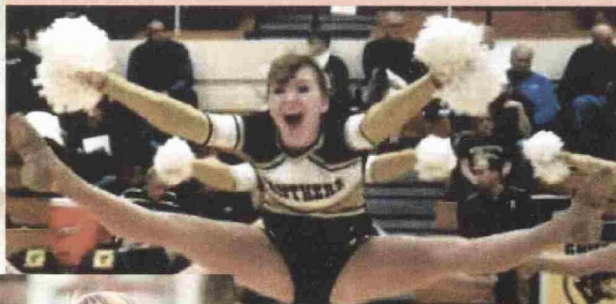
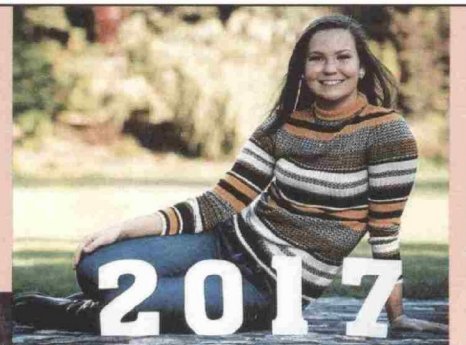
We love you!



Mom, Matthew, Alexandria, Gabriel, Kay,
and your Guardian Angel: Dad



DANA JELENSKI



We are so proud of you and your accomplishments! You have been a blessing since the moment you were born! You bring joy to our lives and we wouldn't change anything about you! We love you! You always shine like a star no matter what you do. Congratulations, great job, and good luck at college.

All our love, Hugs & Kisses
Mom, Dad, Ryan, Andrew, Grandparents, Aunties, Uncles,
and Cousins.

XO

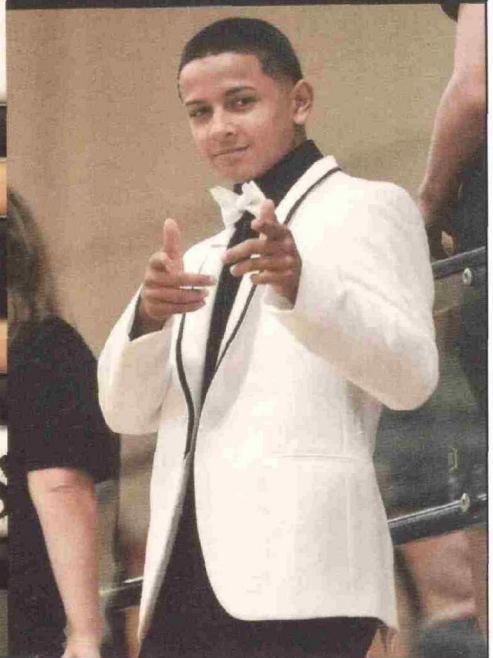
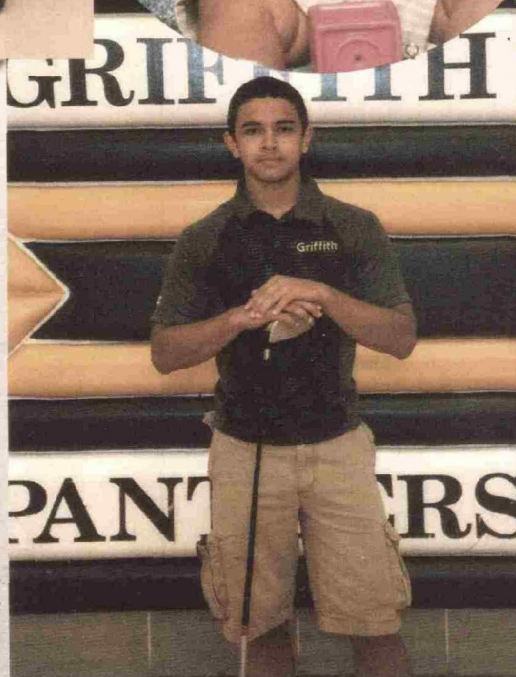
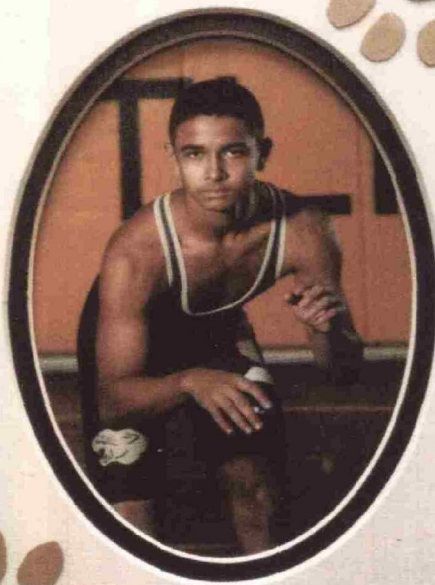
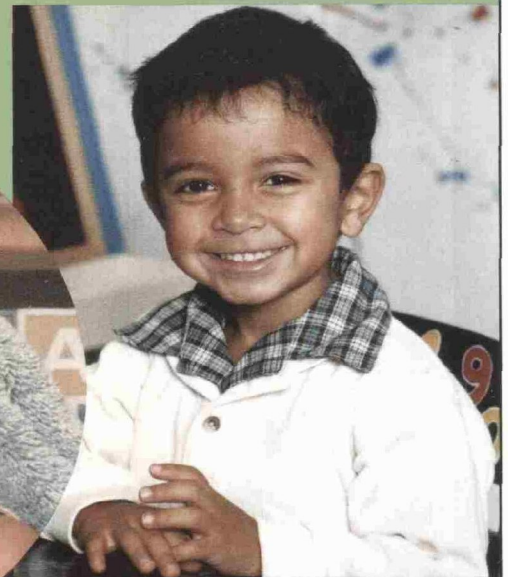
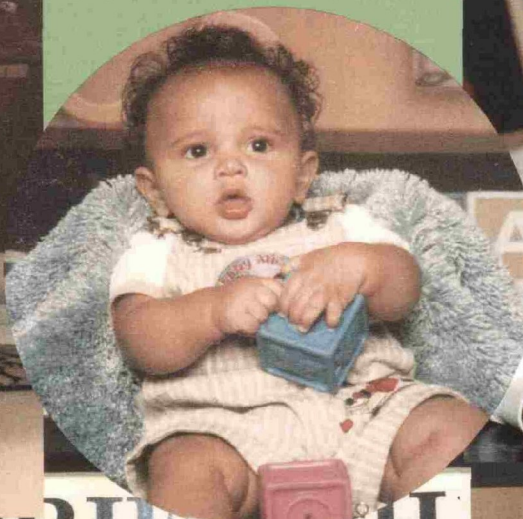
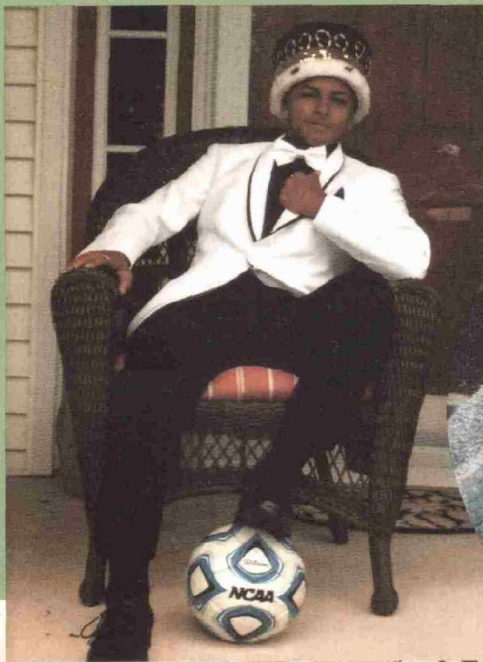
KEITH T. HERNANDEZ

Congratulations, K.T.

We are so proud of everything you've accomplished.

Thank you for all the wonderful memories. Always stay true to yourself. We love you and wish you only the best.

Love Mom, Dad, Lt Will, Asheleigh, Babe, and Ronnie

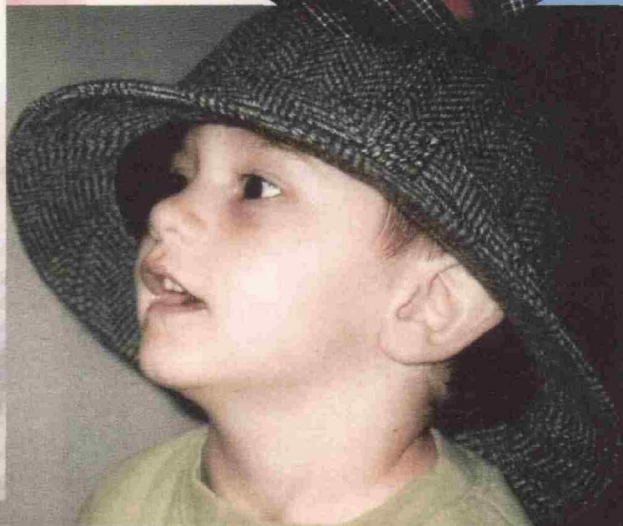
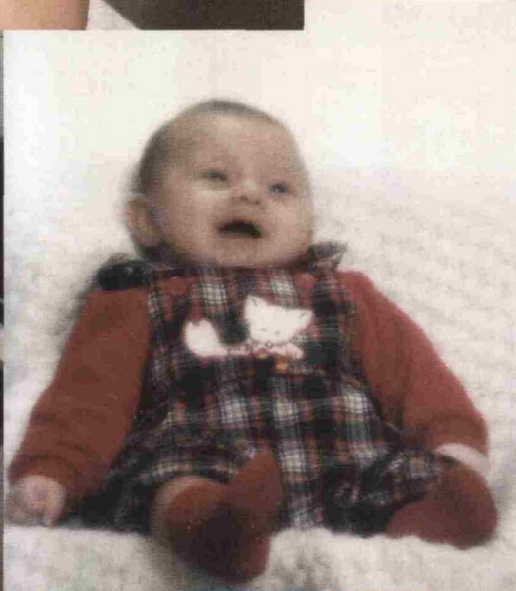
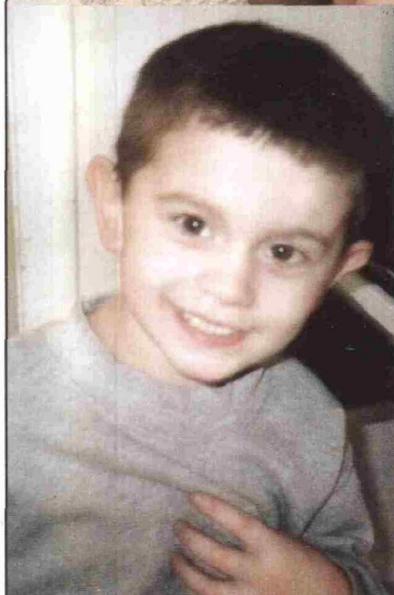
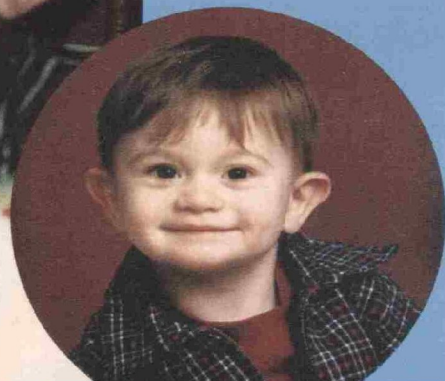
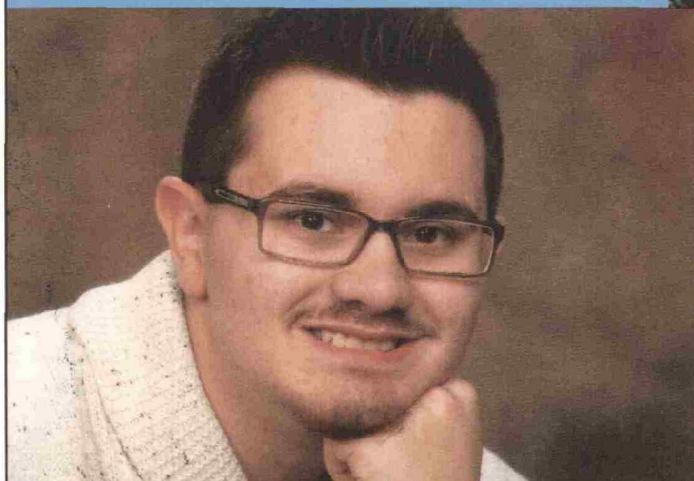


ETHAN JONES

Ethan,

You are such an amazing man! To watch you grow up and learn over the years has been truly exciting for us. We have had the privilege of walking with you and holding your hand. Now we will watch as you learn to fly. You have big dreams and compassion. Never let this world hold you back! We love you and know you will do great things.

Mom and Dad



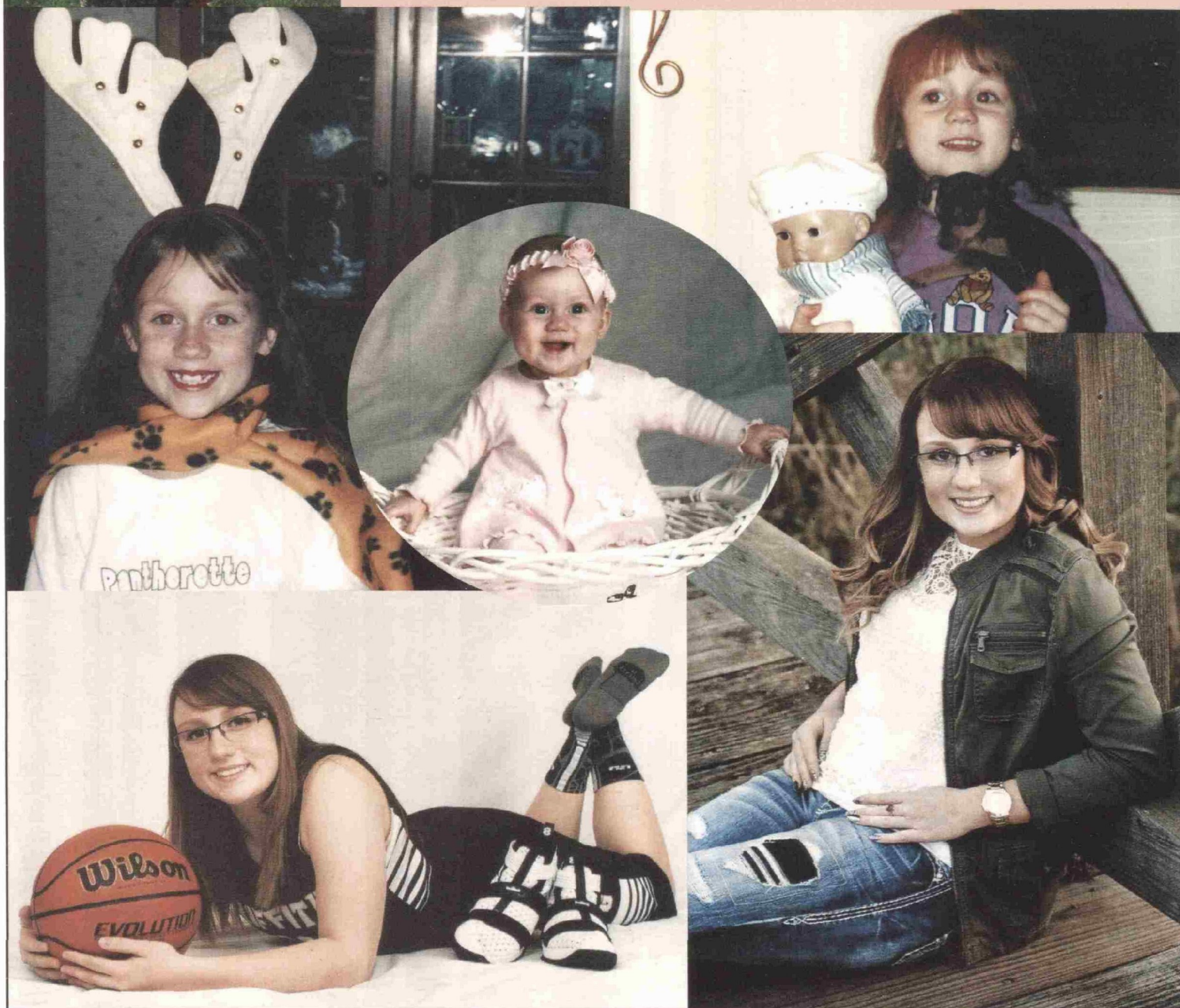


KAELYN PRICE

KK- You have grown into a beautiful woman. We could not be prouder of you. You have a heart of gold and you're so caring. Congrats on closing this chapter in your life! Can't wait to watch you achieve all your dreams!!

Love,

Mom, Josh, Kelsey, Kyle, Grandma, Papa, and Jimmy





HOLLIE WITVOET

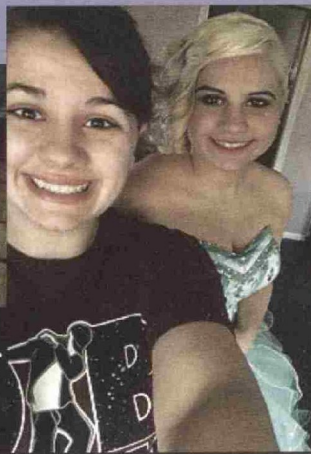
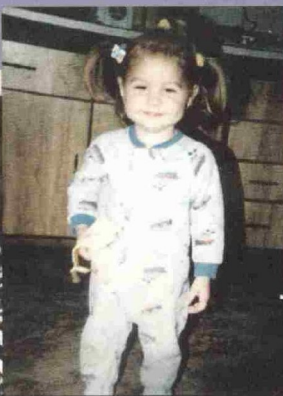
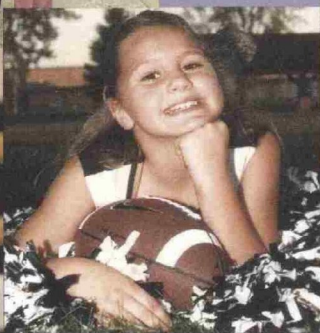
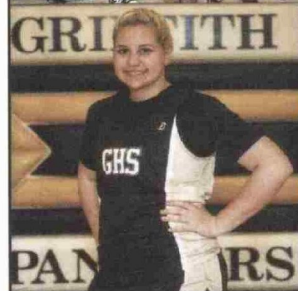
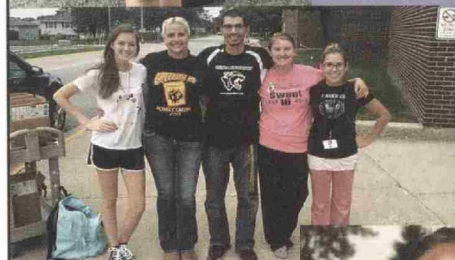
She is clothed in strength and dignity. She laughs without fear of the future. Proverbs 31:5

Proud of you and the obstacles you have overcome.

The future is yours for the taking.

Love always,

Mom



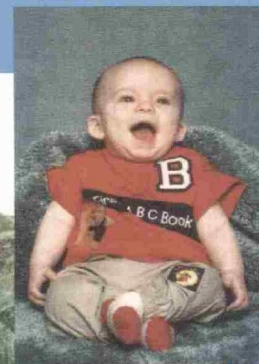
BROOKLYN AND AUSTIN RICHARDSON

As this book in your life comes to an end, the next book, the book of life, is ready to begin.

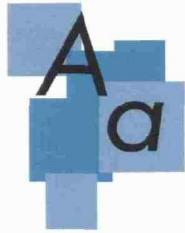
So proud of you both!

Love,

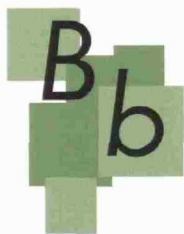
Mom and Dad



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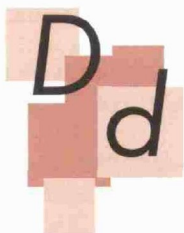
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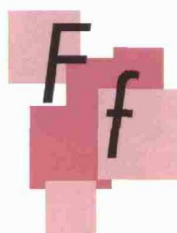
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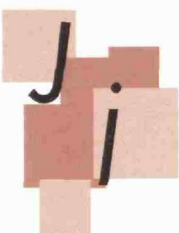


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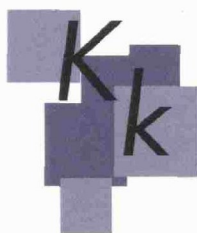


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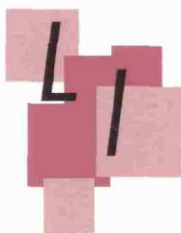


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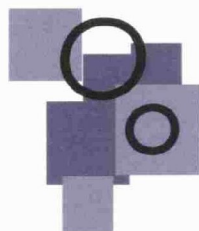
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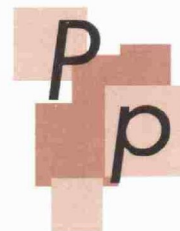
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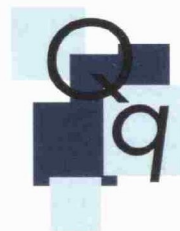
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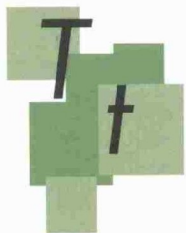
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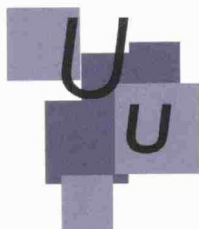


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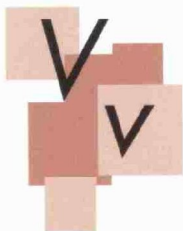
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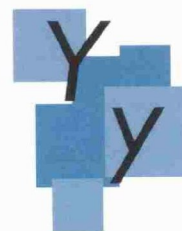
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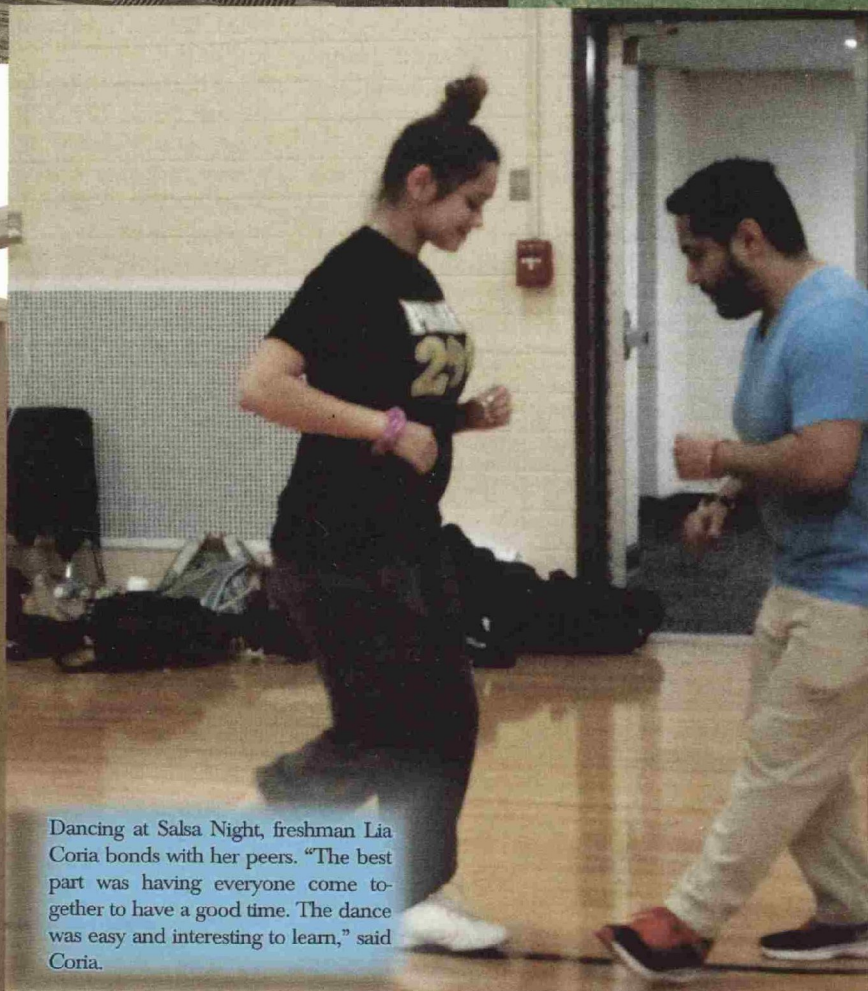
by: Julianne Long, Stephanie Lester,
& Taylor Grady



The art club created a mural to give recognition to the performing arts at the school. "At the beginning of the year I came up with the idea to create the mural for the school," said Junior Collin Meadows.



GHS Construction Class



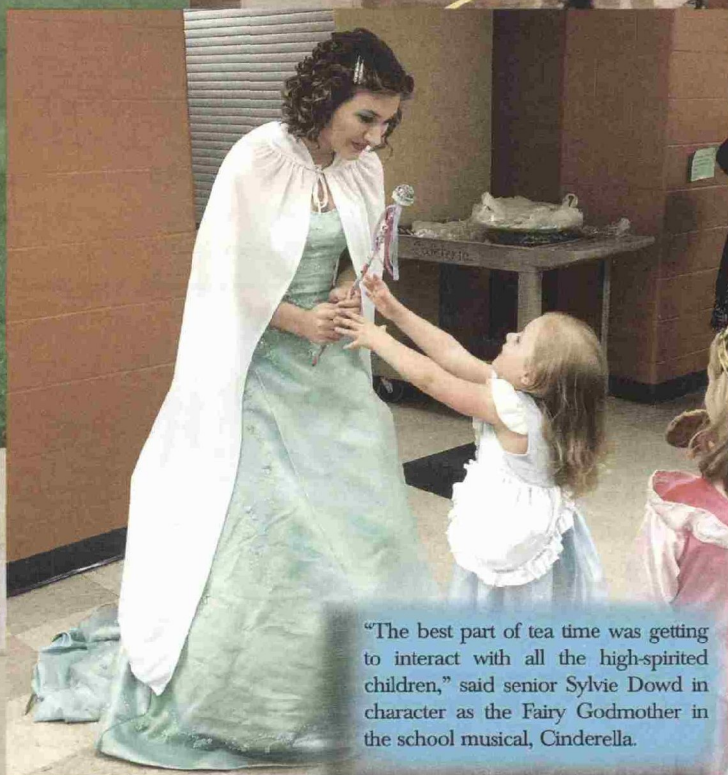
Dancing at Salsa Night, freshman Lia Coria bonds with her peers. "The best part was having everyone come together to have a good time. The dance was easy and interesting to learn," said Coria.



Zachary Keil, 12



Hunter Conaghan 12, Michael Villalobos, 12



"The best part of tea time was getting to interact with all the high-spirited children," said senior Sylvie Dowd in character as the Fairy Godmother in the school musical, Cinderella.



Lindsay Krajnik, 11

The end of the year brought joy but also was busy with ISTEP testing, AP Exams, and finals. In order to accommodate all the testing, there was a different schedule every day that became hectic for students to memorize. Despite being overwhelmed, students were excited that the school year was almost over. Spring break was from March 27 through the 31 and students were able to unwind from all the stress since they went to school for 11 weeks straight due to snow days in December. On April 19th, seniors attended their annual banquet located at the Halls of St. George. Senior class president Dana Jelenski gave a speech where she reflected on the four years of high school. The following Friday, April 21st, was senior ditch day where seniors spent the day at the beach. In the last week of April, seniors received their caps and gowns.

It was beginning to become surreal for the seniors that their high school career was coming to an end. "I am ecstatic to finally graduate from high school, but I'm nervous at the same time because I'm scared about the real world since it's unpredictable," said senior David Renfro.

"We wanted to do something entertaining and different to get the students involved with culture," said Veronica Garcia.

Prom was on Friday, May 5th, and was at the Halls of St. George in Schererville. The theme of this year's dance was "Enchanted." During the dance, juniors Ali Schoon and Alaa Mroueh were crowned queen and king.

New to this year, art club painted a mural on the wall by the auditorium and the english hallway.

The objective of the mural was to show off their appreciation to the performing arts students who entertained us, sang for us, and acted as a role they played. Their goal was to finish May 11th, in which they completed. "Being able to say that I have accomplished a lot is what I enjoyed the most about painting it. I painted some of the lights, and the logos of drama and band.

Everyday of painting was worth the time and dedication I have put into it," said junior Yamia Smith.

The foreign language department hosted a Salsa Night on May 9th. Close to 70 students were in attendance that night. "We wanted to do something entertaining, and different to get the students involved with culture, said Veronica Garcia.

LETTERS FROM THE EDITORS



Lilyana Salazar
Co-Editor

I have been a part of the yearbook staff for three out of my four years of high school. My staff members, my fellow co-editor, and my teacher (Mrs. Collard) have helped make my senior year better. I will never forget the hours spent after school designing spreads, fixing proofs, and grading deadlines. Although the stress seemed to keep piling on everyday, I wouldn't change my position as co-editor. Looking back at all of the time I spent finalizing this yearbook makes me feel a sense of accomplishment. No one knows how hard this class can be until you are put into a higher position. My dream since freshman year was to become an editor and I achieved it. I would like to thank Mrs. Collard for always being there for me and helping me throughout this year long process of making the yearbook possible.

Never did I ever picture myself in such a big part of the high school yearbook. Sitting in Mrs. Collard's journalism class my freshman year I began to fall in love with everything about the class and the idea of adding my own thoughts and ideas towards the yearbook. Having Mrs. Collard as my teacher was also a plus and one of the biggest reasons I had the opportunity of being co-editor. No matter how much stress this class gave, it's definitely all worth it when I get to look back on all my hard work. I've created so many memories with this class the last two and a half years already and I can't wait for many more. Although my partner in crime, Lilyana, will be moving on to bigger and better things, I'm not sure what I will do without her. As my first year as co-editor I couldn't have asked for better people to be by my side.



Erica Ward
Co-Editor



Christine Morikis
Photo Editor

The past two years on the publications staff have been the best of high school. I have made friendships that will last a lifetime and made memories I will never forget. I never thought I would join staff, and I especially never thought I would be a photographer, but once I took Mr. Graff's photography class I knew I needed to pursue it in some way. I have learned so many things from Mrs. Collard and my fellow photographers: Skylar, Kylie, and Stephanie. Without them none of this would even be possible. Also being an editor with Lilyana and Erica has been great. I don't know what I would have done without them. They made everything on my part so much easier because I wasn't physically in the class second semester. I am so glad I got to be part of staff doing what I love.



Colophon

Volume 76 of the Reflector is a product printed by Herff Jones located at 2525 Midpoint Drive, Edwardsville, Kansas. Betty Samples, Griffith's Herff Jones representative, assisted in the creation of the front and back cover and also helped the staff with important issues and deadlines. Our thanks and gratitude goes to this plant and their representatives as we had numerous requests throughout the year and they were able to fulfill our every desire.

At the beginning of the year, yearbooks were priced at \$70. However, the price increased to \$85 by the conclusion of the school year. For the 2016-2017 book, the theme was "The time is (h)ours". With this, the designs throughout the pages consisted of transparent pictures, collages, circle designs, and creative headline designs.

All the pages were split up and designed by the two editors, Erica Ward and Lilyana Salazar, with the help of section editors using Adobe InDesign CS6 and Adobe Photoshop CS6 programs on iMac computers running on OS X Yosemite. Once completed, pages were sent through ePage, eProof, and eService. Photos were provided by on-staff photographers and completed by staff reporters. Trysh Jaeger generously donated her time and her studio to provide senior photos for the people section of the Reflector. She also took time to take the top ten and prom photos.

While most responsibilities regarding the design of the reflector were fulfilled by the editors, none of the larger tasks could have been done without the advisor, Mrs. Collard. On behalf of the staff, the editors would like to express our absolute gratitude to such an amazing source of guidance. The Reflector staff, would not exist if it weren't for the undying dedication that Mrs. Collard has put forth in the publication.

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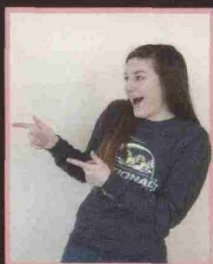
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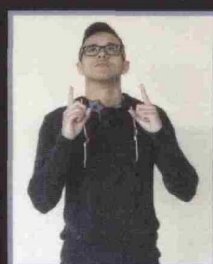
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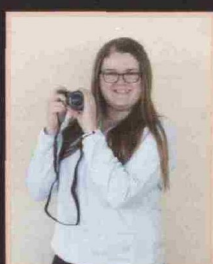
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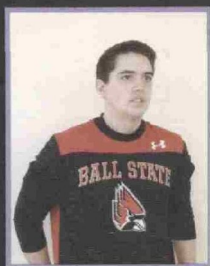
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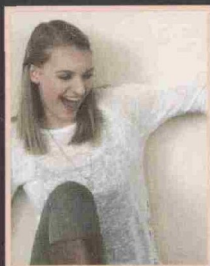
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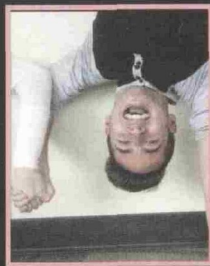
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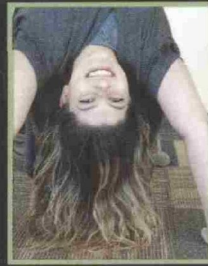
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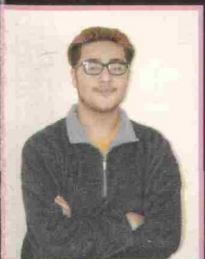
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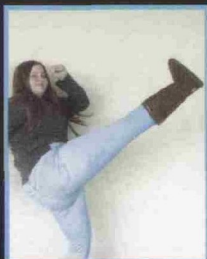
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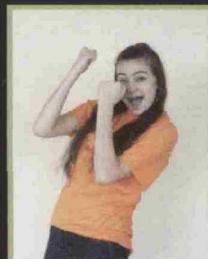
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Vanessa



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